

On Top Of The News Email:[news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) website: [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com) Tel:+297 582-7800 Friday, May 24, 2013

## Be Prepared

DAVID CRARY

N. MERCHANT

Associated Press

GRAPEVINE, Texas (AP) —

The Boy Scouts of America threw open its ranks Thursday to gay Scouts but not gay Scout leaders — a fiercely contested compromise that some warned could fracture the organization and lead to mass defections of members and donors.



Matthew Ray, 15, of North Richland Hills, Texas, holds signs where the Boy Scouts of America met this week in Grapevine, Texas.

(AP Photo/LM Otero)

Of the roughly 1,400 voting members of the BSA's National Council who cast ballots, 61 percent supported the proposal drafted by the governing Executive Committee. The policy change takes effect Jan. 1.

"While people have different opinions about this policy, we can all agree that kids are better off when they are in Scouting," the BSA said after announcing the results at the council's annual meeting near Dallas.

However, the outcome will not end the bitter debate over the Scouts' membership policy.

Liberal Scout leaders — while supporting the proposal to accept gay youth — have made clear they want the ban on gay adults lifted as well.

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Convicted killer Jodi Arias listens to a question during an interview at the Maricopa County Estrella Jail this week in Phoenix. The jury in Jodi Arias' murder trial was dismissed Thursday after failing to reach a verdict in the penalty phase.

(AP Photo/Ross D. Franklin)

## Jury dismissed on Jodi Arias penalty; retrial set

JOSH HOFFNER

Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — The jury in Jodi Arias' murder trial was dismissed Thursday after failing to reach a verdict against the woman they convicted of murdering her one-time boyfriend in a case that captured headlines worldwide with its sex, lies, violence.

A new panel likely will be

seated to try again to reach a decision on a sentence — unless the prosecutor takes death off the table agrees to a life sentence.

The judge scheduled a retrial for July 18.

"Sorry,"

one female juror mouthed to the family of the victim, Travis Alexander, as they cried.

Arias, who has said both that she wanted to live and wanted to die, looked visibly upset with the jury's decision. Before it was announced, she sobbed in the courtroom. Her family didn't attend Thursday but has been present for much of the trial.

In announcing the mistrial, Judge Sherry Stephens gave a heavy sigh and

said: "This was not your typical trial. You were asked to perform some very difficult duties."

The jury began deliberating Tuesday and first reported it had failed to reach a unanimous decision the next day. Stephens instructed the jurors to keep trying.

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# In Mideast, Kerry plays down pessimism on peace

ISABEL KERSHNER

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**JERUSALEM** - As he embarked on another round of meetings with Israeli and Palestinian leaders on Thursday in an effort to revitalize the peace process, Secretary of State John Kerry acknowledged the doubts being expressed on both sides over his chances of success.

"I know this region well enough to know that there is skepticism; in some corridors, there's cynicism. And there are reasons for it. There have been bitter years of disappointment," he said, before meeting here with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

But he added, "It is our hope that by being methodical, careful, patient, but detailed and tenacious, that we can lay out a path ahead that could conceivably surprise people, but certainly exhaust the possibilities of peace."

Kerry then traveled to Ramallah in the West Bank to meet with the president of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas. They discussed "their shared commitment to the peace effort and the best path moving forward," according to an official statement. It added that Kerry

also updated Abbas on his initiative to strengthen the Palestinian economy. Palestinian officials have said that they expect Kerry to present a proposal for restarting Israeli-Palestinian

omatic protocol, said there were still no indications that Israel was prepared to meet the requirements that the Palestinians had insisted on to resume the long-stalled negotiations.

Of course we want to negotiate."

Israeli officials have also been quick to express their support for Kerry's efforts while indicating that they are not convinced that the



**U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, left, meets with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel in Jerusalem, May 23, 2013. On his fourth visit to the area in two months, Kerry acknowledged the doubts being expressed on both sides over his chances of revitalizing the peace process.**

**(Jim Young/Pool via The New York Times)**

peace talks by early June. But ahead of Kerry's visit - his fourth to the area in eight weeks - one Palestinian official, speaking on the condition of anonymity in accordance with diplo-

"I would prefer to say I am hopeful, even though I have nothing to base that hope on," the official said. But he added: "We are not in a mood of confrontation. We are fully engaged.

Palestinians want to return to the negotiating table. Before their meeting, Netanyahu said of the attempt to resume peace talks, "It's something I want. It's something you want.

It's something I hope the Palestinians want as well. And we ought to be successful for a simple reason: When there's a will, we'll find a way."

Tzipi Livni, Israel's minister of justice and chief negotiator on the Palestinian issue, said Thursday that Israel had a clear interest in advancing the process. In an interview on Israel Radio, she acknowledged differences within the Israeli government. One coalition member, the right-wing Jewish Home Party, rejects the idea of a Palestinian state. But Livni said Netanyahu was a full partner in Kerry's effort. Those close to the talks have maintained strict discretion about the details. A senior Israeli official, who also spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the continuing diplomacy, said Kerry was discussing specific ideas about how to get back to negotiations. "Are we there yet? I'm afraid not," the official said, "but we might be very close."

**(BEGIN OPTIONAL TRIM.)**

Since becoming secretary of state, Kerry has worked to jump-start the peace process, embracing a seemingly intractable issue. He has maintained close contact with the sides since his last visit, speaking every couple of days by phone with Netanyahu, according to the same Israeli official, speaking on Wednesday ahead of Kerry's visit. Saeb Erekat, the chief Palestinian negotiator, has said he and Abbas have been speaking with Kerry by phone almost weekly. Outwardly, however, Israeli-Palestinian relations remain dogged by familiar issues of contention.

One is Israel's continued settlement construction in the West Bank and the Palestinian refusal to return to talks as building goes on. The new Israeli government that was formed in March has refrained in recent weeks from issuing bids for construction or from announcing major new projects. □

## Canada disapproves new meat labeling rules

**TORONTO (AP)** — Canada said Thursday that it is considering retaliatory measures against the United States in a dispute over meat-labeling rules that Ottawa and the World Trade Organization consider discriminatory.

The Canadian government said that new U.S. country of origin labeling regulations announced Thursday that require tracking beef, chicken and hogs from livestock through the meat processing and distribution systems are unduly burdensome.

Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz and Trade Minister Ed Fast said in a joint statement that rule means additional costs for producers

on both sides of the border and increased damage to the industry.

"Canada will consider all options at its disposal, including, if necessary, the use of retaliatory measures," the statement said. In 2009, the U.S. issued a requirement that retail outlets put country of origin labels on meat and other products in an effort to give U.S. consumers more information about their food.

The rule led to lower U.S. imports of livestock from Canada cutting Canadian cattle shipments to the U.S. by 50 percent within a year and cut the export of slaughter hogs by 58 percent, according to the Agriculture and Agri-Food

Canada department. The Canadian Pork Council estimates the labeling rule has already cost Canada about US\$97 million (CA\$1 billion) annually in beef and pork exports.

The WTO said last year that the 2009 U.S. country of origin rule discriminated against livestock from Canada and Mexico. Washington had until Thursday to ensure the labeling rule complied with trade obligations.

The Canadians said the U.S. regulations will not bring the Americans into compliance with last year's ruling by the World Trade Organization.

Tom Vilsack, U.S. agriculture secretary, said the new

rules are aimed at resolving the tense trade dispute between Canada, the U.S. and Mexico.

"USDA remains confident that these changes will improve the overall operation of the program and also bring the mandatory (country of origin legislation) requirements into compliance with U.S. international trade obligations," he said in a statement.

The new labels will include such information as "born, raised and slaughtered in the United States" for American meat. Cuts of meat from other countries could carry labels such as "born in Canada, raised and slaughtered in the United States." □

Britain:

## Suspect in London attack identified by Muslim hard-liners

**GREGORY KATZ**  
**PAISLEY DODDS**  
**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — A man seen with bloody hands wielding a butcher knife after the killing of a British soldier on the streets of London was described as a convert to Islam who took part in demonstrations with a banned radical group, two Muslim hard-liners said Thursday.

Police raided houses in connection with the brazen slaying of the off-duty soldier, identified as Lee Rigby, of the 2nd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, who served in Afghanistan. In addition to the two suspects who were hospitalized after being shot by police, authorities said they had arrested a man and a woman, both 29, on suspicion of conspiracy to murder.

Police would not say whether it appeared Rigby had been targeted specifically because of his military service. Although he was not in uniform at the time he was killed, he was said by witnesses to be wearing a T-shirt for a British veterans' charity.

Authorities have not identified either of the two wounded suspects and have not said when they would do so. Officials in Britain usually wait to name suspects until charges have been filed.

Anjem Choudary, the former head of the radical group al-Muhajiroun, told The Associated Press that the man depicted in startling video that emerged after Rigby's death was named Michael Adebolajo, a Christian who converted to Islam around 2003 and took part in several demonstrations by the group in London.

The BBC broadcast video from 2007 showing Adebolajo standing near Choudary at a rally.

Omar Bakri Muhammad, who now lives in Lebanon but had been a radical Muslim preacher in London, also said he recognized the man seen on TV as Adebolajo and said he attended

his London lectures in the early 2000s. Bakri, speaking from Lebanon, said he remembers Adebolajo as a "shy person" who was keen to learn about Islam and asked interesting questions. "He used to listen more than he spoke," Bakri said. "I was very surprised to learn that he is the suspect in the attack."

Mary Warder, who has lived in the Woolwich area for more than 30 years, told the AP said she had seen both of the suspects preaching on the streets. Shopkeepers, however, said they couldn't remem-

ber the busy city known for its decorum. The bizarre scene was recorded on witnesses' cellphones, with one of the two suspects boasting of their exploits and warning of more violence as the soldier lay on the ground. Holding bloody knives and a meat cleaver, they waited for the arrival of police, who shot them in the legs, according to a passerby who tried to save the dying soldier. A British government official said one of the two men tried to go to Somalia to train or fight with the terror group al-Shabab. The official, who spoke on

sonous narrative of extremism on which this violence feeds." In Washington, President Barack Obama said the U.S. "stands resolute with the United Kingdom" in the fight against violent extremism.

There were few signs of alarm on the streets of London, which has been hit by terrorist attacks during a long confrontation with the Irish Republican Army and more recently, in July 2005, by al-Qaida-inspired suicide bombings that killed 52 commuters.

"It's hateful, it's horrific and upsetting. But it doesn't



People heckle the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, not pictured, as he leaves the scene of a terror attack in Woolwich, southeast London, Thursday, May 23, 2013. A member of armed forces was attacked and killed by two men in the area on Wednesday.

(AP Photo/Sang Tan)

ber seeing them.

The two men suspected of killing the 25-year-old Rigby had been part of previous investigations by security services, a British official said Thursday, as investigators searched several locations and tried to determine whether the men were part of a wider terrorist plot.

There also was no clear indication on when or where the suspects may have been radicalized.

Rigby, the father of a 2-year-old boy, was slain Wednesday afternoon outside the Royal Artillery Barracks in the Woolwich area of south London while horrified bystanders watched

condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak about the police investigation, would not say if the suspect had been arrested or whether he had made any other trips to the country.

Citing unidentified sources described as having "knowledge of British jihadis," the BBC's "Newsnight" program reported that one of the suspects in the attack was arrested last year on his way to joining al-Shabab.

Prime Minister David Cameron vowed that Britain would not be cowed by the horrific bloodshed, and that it would reject "the poi-

seem to have made much of a difference," Christian White, 43, said at King's Cross station, close to the site of one of the 2005 bombings.

"Londoners are used to living in a city where life is complicated." Even so, security was increased at military barracks and installations in the capital, with extra armed guards added in many cases. Police said extra patrols were added at sensitive areas, including places of worship, transport hubs and congested areas. Both of the hospitalized suspects had been part of previous terrorism investigations by Britain's secu-

rity services, according to a British official who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak about the police inquiry and cautioned that details could jeopardize future trials.

It was unclear how recent the investigations were, whether the men were loosely tied to other suspects being investigated, or whether they themselves had been put under surveillance, which could have included being watched by undercover investigators or having their phone calls and emails intercepted.

Dramatic video showed a black man — animated, hands stained with blood and holding a meat cleaver — criticizing the British government and the presence of U.K. troops in foreign lands.

Maajid Nawaz, a former Islamist now with the London-based Quilliam anti-extremism think tank in London, said the video and emerging details indicated the men had been inspired by al-Qaida even though they may not have been directed by any specific affiliate to attack the soldier.

"There is always mood music playing before these attacks happen," Nawaz told the AP. "In this instance, I'm not saying they are operationally linked to al-Qaida, but these men clearly felt an affinity to this global jihadist zeitgeist. And they wouldn't have had to have

visited any foreign countries for this ideology to have resonated with them."

Security officials have been worried over the recent increase of men seeking training and fighting opportunities in countries such as Syria, Somalia and Yemen. Dozens of British men and women are said to have been radicalized by U.S.-born militant cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, the militant leader who was killed in a 2011 U.S. drone strike in Yemen.

A Twitter account used by members of Somalia's al-Shabab militant group made a lengthy post Thursday about the attack in Woolwich. □

## Obama sees narrower terror threat, defends controversial drone-strikes

JULIE  
LARA JAKES  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama sought Thursday to advance the U.S. beyond the unrelenting war effort of the past dozen years, defining a narrowing terror threat that still imperils the nation but now is defined by smaller networks and homegrown extremists rather than the grandiose plots of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida. He defended his controversial drone-strikes program as a linchpin of the U.S. response to the

PACE

"Neither I, nor any president, can promise the total defeat of terror," Obama told his audience of students, national security and human rights experts and counterterrorism officials. "What we can do — what we must do — is dismantle networks that pose a direct danger, and make it less likely for new groups to gain a foothold, all while maintaining the freedoms and ideals that we defend."

Obama's address came amid increased pressure from Congress on both the drone program and the

deeply troubled by the civilians unintentionally killed. "For me, and those in my chain of command, these deaths will haunt us as long as we live," he said. Before any strike, he said, "there must be near-certainty that no civilians will be killed or injured — the highest standard we can set." In Pakistan alone, up to 3,336 people have been killed by the unmanned aircraft since 2003, according to the New America Foundation which maintains a database of the strikes. However, the secrecy surrounding the



President Barack Obama reacts to CODEPINK founder Medea Benjamin as she shouts at him from the back of the auditorium during his speech about national security, Thursday, May 23, 2013, at the National Defense University at Fort McNair in Washington. (AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

evolving dangers. In a lengthy address at the National Defense University, Obama argued that changing threats require changes to the nation's counterterrorism policies. He implored Congress to close the much-maligned Guantanamo Bay detention center in Cuba and pledged to allow greater oversight of the drone program. But he plans to keep the most lethal efforts with the unmanned aircraft under the control of the CIA. He offered his most vigorous public defense yet of drone strikes as legal, effective and necessary as terror threats progress.

status of the Guantanamo prison. A rare coalition of bipartisan lawmakers has pressed for more openness and more oversight of the highly secretive targeted strikes, while liberal lawmakers have pointed to a hunger strike at Guantanamo in pressing Obama to renew his stalled efforts to close the detention center. The president cast the drone program as crucial in a counterterrorism effort that will rely less on the widespread deployment of U.S. troops as the war in Afghanistan winds down. But he acknowledged the targeted strikes are no "cure-all" and said he is

drone program makes it impossible for the public to know for sure how many people have been killed in strikes, and of those, how many were intended targets.

In an attempt to lift the veil somewhat, the Justice Department revealed for the first time Wednesday that four Americans had been killed in U.S. drone strikes abroad. Just one was an intended target — Anwar al-Awlaki, who officials say had ties to at least three attacks planned or carried out on U.S. soil. The other three Americans, including al-Awlaki's 16-year-old son, were unintended victims. □

## House passes student loan bill, setting up showdown

JONATHAN WEISMAN  
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**WASHINGTON** — The House on Thursday passed legislation to head off a doubling of student loan interest rates on July 1, instead tying rates to prevailing market trends and ending federal subsidies.

The bill, approved largely along party lines 221-198, kicks off what is sure to be the next showdown between House Republicans, Senate Democrats and President Barack Obama, with a hard deadline looming in little more than a month. Republicans said they had come up with a long-term plan that would get the government out of the business of setting interest rates.

"What the House is doing today is a responsible way to deal honestly with the issue of student loans," Speaker John A. Boehner of Ohio said. "Can somebody politicize this on the other side of the aisle? Certainly they can."

Democrats jumped on the issue to say House leaders are intent on raising the cost of already onerous student debt. They quickly signaled that the brewing fight would become a major political rallying cry.

"It's really stunning," said Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California, the House Democratic leader.

At stake is a subsidized loan rate of 3.4 percent for more than 7.4 million students with federal Stafford loans, which would jump to 6.8 percent if Congress fails to act. Democrats fixed the 3.4 percent rate before Republicans took control of the House in 2011. Last June, Republicans buckled under political pressure and extended the subsidized rate for one year, just two days before its expiration.

This time, Republican leaders insist they will hold firm, but they face Democrats in the Senate dead set against their approach and a threatened White House veto.

"Who's going to set interest rates, politicians here or the markets?" asked Rep.

John Kline, R-Minn., chairman of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

The House bill would allow student lending rates to reset each year, based on the interest rate of a 10-year Treasury note, plus 2.5 percentage points for Stafford loans. The Congressional Budget Office projected rates on Stafford loans would rise to 5 percent in 2014 and 7.7 percent in 2023. Under the legislation, Stafford loans would be capped at 8.5 percent, while loans for parents and graduate students would have a 10.5 percent cap.

The legislation would cut the deficit by \$3.7 billion over 10 years, a small but politically significant number, since White House officials say the deficit should not be reduced on the backs of indebted college graduates.

Senate Democrats want to extend the current subsidized rate for at least two years. The cost to the federal government, \$8.3 billion, would be paid by closing tax loopholes. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., would go further, setting a 4 percent rate for all student loans and allowing graduates with higher interest-rate loans to refinance at that level.

But Obama has a different proposal that would fall somewhere between the House and Senate bills. He, too, would set student lending rates each year based on the Treasury's borrowing costs, but those rates would be fixed for the life of the loan, not reset each year. He would also cap student-borrowing costs at 10 percent of a student's income.

The White House proposal has divided Democrats and given Republicans some hope that a negotiated solution can be reached in June. House Republicans said Thursday that they had been negotiating with the White House for weeks, but that those talks broke off under pressure from congressional Democrats. □

# Boy Scouts approve plan to accept openly gay boys

**Continued from front**

In contrast, conservatives with the Scouts—including some churches that sponsor Scout units—wanted to continue excluding gay youths, in some cases threatening to defect if the ban were lifted.

"We are deeply saddened," said Frank Page, president of the Southern Baptist Convention's executive committee after learning of the result. "Homosexual behavior is incompatible with the principles enshrined in the Scout oath and Scout law."

The Assemblies of God, another conservative denomination, said the policy change "will lead to a mass exodus from the Boy Scout program."

The result was welcomed by many gay-rights groups, which joined in the call for an end to the ban on gay adults.

"I'm so proud of how far we've come, but until there's a place for everyone in Scouting, my work will continue," said Jennifer Tyrrell, who's ouster as a Cub Scout den leader

in Ohio because she is lesbian launched a national protest movement.

The vote followed what the BSA described as "the most comprehensive listening exercise in Scouting's history" to gauge opinions within the community.

The BSA could also take a hit financially. Many Scout units in conservative areas fear their local donors will stop giving if the ban on gay youth is lifted.

The BSA executive committee suggested a plan in January to give sponsors of local Scout units the option of admitting gays as both youth members and adult leaders or continuing to exclude them. However, the plan won little praise, and the BSA changed course after assessing responses to surveys sent out starting in February to members of the Scouting community.

Of the more than 200,000 leaders, parents and youth members who responded, 61 percent supported the current policy of excluding gays, while 34 percent opposed it. However, most parents of young Scouts, as well as youth members



James Oliver, left, hugs his brother and fellow Eagle Scout, Will Oliver, who is gay, as Will and other supporters carry four boxes filled with petitions to end the ban on gay scouts and leaders in front of the Boy Scouts of America headquarters in Dallas, Texas.

(AP Photo/Tony Gutierrez)

themselves, opposed the ban.

The proposal approved Thursday was seen as a compromise, and the Scouts stressed that they would not condone sexual conduct by any Scout—gay or straight.

"The Boy Scouts of America will not sacrifice its mis-

sion, or the youth served by the movement, by allowing the organization to be consumed by a single, divisive, and unresolved societal issue," a BSA statement said.

Since the executive committee just completed a lengthy review process, "there are no plans for further review on this matter," the group said.

The BSA's overall "traditional youth membership"—Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturers—is now about 2.6 million, compared with more than 4 million in peak years of the past. It also has about 1 million adult leaders and volunteers.

Of the more than 100,000 Scouting units in the U.S., 70 percent are chartered by religious institutions. □

## Jury dismissed on Jodi Arias penalty; retrial set

**Continued from front**

The same panel on May 8 found Arias guilty of first-degree murder in the death of Alexander, who was stabbed and slashed nearly 30 times and nearly decapitated at his Mesa home.

The jury later determined the killing was cruel enough to merit consideration of the death penalty.

Under Arizona law, a hung jury in the death penalty phase of a trial requires a new jury to be seated to decide the punishment. If the second jury cannot reach a unanimous decision, the judge would then sentence Arias to spend her entire life in prison or be eligible for release after 25 years. The judge cannot sentence Arias to death.

Former Maricopa County Attorney Rick Romley has said the case could drag on for several more months

as the new jury reviews evidence and hears opening statements, closing arguments and witness testimony in a "Cliffs Notes" version of the trial.

However, if the prosecutor decides not to pursue the death penalty a second time, the judge would then sentence Arias to one of the life in prison options, and the trial would come to a conclusion.

The verdict came two days after Arias spoke directly to jurors and pleaded for her life. She said she "lacked perspective" when she told a local reporter after her conviction that she preferred execution to spending the rest of her days in jail. She told jurors she could bring about positive change in prison by teaching inmates how to read and helping launch prison recycling programs. That night, Arias gave a series of media interviews from jail, telling reporters

out about her many fights with her legal team and her belief that she "deserves a second chance at freedom someday."

Arias, 32, contends she killed Alexander in self-defense when he became enraged after a day of sex, forcing her to fight for her life. Prosecutors say she attacked him in a jealous rage because he wanted to end their relationship and go to Mexico with another woman.

The verdict brings a close to the trial's penalty phase, which featured dramatic statements by Alexander's sister and brother as they described how their lives were shattered by the loss of their beloved sibling.

Arias' attorneys tried without success to withdraw from the case several times during the trial, once after Arias gave her post-conviction TV interview, and another in the middle of her sentencing phase. □

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# IRS official Lerner put on leave

JONATHAN WEISMAN  
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**WASHINGTON** - Lois Lerner, the head of the Internal Revenue Service's division on exempt organizations, was put on administrative

minutes after Sens. Carl Levin, D-Mich., and John McCain, R-Ariz., released a letter to the new acting IRS commissioner, Danny Werfel, demanding her immediate suspension for

the subcommittee was investigating, we have lost confidence in her ability to fulfill her duties as director of exempt organizations at the IRS," Levin and McCain wrote.



**Lois Lerner, director of Exempt Organizations for the IRS, during a House Oversight and Government Reform hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington, May 22, 2013. Lerner was put on administrative leave Thursday, a day after she invoked the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution and declined to testify before a House committee investigating her division's targeting of conservative groups.**

(Drew Angerer/The New York Times)

leave Thursday, a day after she invoked the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution and declined to testify before a House committee investigating her division's targeting of conservative groups.

The decision came to light

what they said was her failure to disclose information to their Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations.

"Given the serious failure by Ms. Lerner to disclose to this subcommittee key information on topics that

Lerner has been under severe pressure since May 10, when she delivered an awkward apology to Tea Party and other conservative groups whose applications for 501(c)(4) tax exemptions had been singled out for special scrutiny. □

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# NYPD: businessman held for ransom, tortured for month

COLLEEN LONG  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A businessman was snatched from a New York City street in broad daylight, then held captive for more than a month in a warehouse where he was bound and burned with acid as he was held for a \$3 million ransom his family back in Ecuador did not have, authorities said.

Pedro Portugal, 52, was found this week by detectives who had been monitoring phone calls, noticed pizza deliveries to a deserted area in Queens and zeroed in on the warehouse, police said. Three men were arrested and charged with kidnapping and unlawful imprisonment; one is still believed to be at large in the U.S.; and three fled to Ecuador, Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said Thursday.

Portugal, a father of six who owned a small accounting and tax firm in Queens, was burned with acid and spent the better part of a month with his head cloaked, authorities said. He remained hospitalized Thursday and authorities said he did not want to speak to the press. Police said he was approached by three captors on April 18. One flashed what looked like a police badge and called out the victim's name, police said. He was forced into a sports utility vehicle where he was held at knifepoint and bound, then taken to the warehouse.

His mother in Quito, Ecuador, got a call from a man calling himself "Tito" and demanding a \$3 million ransom, police said.

Kelly said the family had some property — but nowhere near enough cash to come up with the ransom.

Five detectives were sent to Ecuador to learn more about the victim and his family.

"It's something that we're still investigating to see why these people thought that \$3 million might have been available," Kelly said.

Meanwhile, Portugal was

burned, beaten, and threatened with mutilation and death, authorities said, including threats to cut off his fingertips if the family didn't come up with the money. The man "suffered physical injuries and has been deeply traumatized by the ordeal," said Queens District Attorney Richard Brown.

On May 20, investigators who had been casing the area noticed a light upstairs in the otherwise dark warehouse in Long Island City, in Queens. They went in and discovered Portugal with his hands bound in a makeshift apartment.

"The person who was 'babysitting' him, as they called it, got away, but he was arrested very quickly," Kelly said, praising the detective work.

Luis Lopez, vice consul of Ecuador in New York, said police kept the consulate informed about the investigation.

Christian Acuna, 35, and Dennis Alves, 32, and Eduardo Moncayo were arraigned late Wednesday and were being held without bail.

According to the criminal complaint, Moncayo said he met a guy named Claudio Ordonez, known as "Doctor," and they agreed to kidnap Portugal. Moncayo is accused of flashing the fake police badge that caused Portugal to stop on the street.

The men were accused of being paid between \$800 per week and \$5,000 total by Ordonez to stay with Portugal at the warehouse. David Strachan, a lawyer for Moncayo, said his client was presumed innocent.

"And I am going to defend him with the greatest of my abilities," he said.

Alves' arraignment attorney had no comment, and the attorney for Acuna didn't return a call seeking comment. Ordonez was at large, as was an unknown man wearing a red sweatshirt who was captured on surveillance footage at a Chase bank in Manhattan trying to withdraw money from Portugal's account. □

## US Financial Front:

## Why worry? Less aid by Fed would point to recovery



Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke listens as he testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, before a Senate Joint Economic Committee hearing on "The Economic Outlook". Investors have grown nervous that the Federal Reserve will scale back its efforts to boost the U.S. economy sooner than many expected.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

**PAUL WISEMAN**  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Investors have grown nervous that the Federal Reserve will scale back its efforts to boost the U.S. economy sooner than many expected. Yet almost lost in the anxiety that gripped the stock market this week is that whenever the Fed slows its drive to keep interest rates low, it will be cause for celebration: It would mean policymakers think the economy is strong enough to accelerate with less help from the Fed.

"We should be wishing for higher interest rates," says Kevin Logan, HSBC's chief U.S. economist. "It would be a sign of a more healthy economy."

Over the past five years, the Fed has acted aggressively to try to boost the economy. Among other steps, it cut short-term interest rates to record lows and said it planned to keep them there at least

until unemployment falls to 6.5 percent (from 7.5 percent in April).

And in September it began a third round of bond purchases — \$85 billion a month. The goal has been to drive down long-term loan rates and encourage more borrowing, spending and hiring.

The lower rates have fueled a surge in stock prices: The Standard & Poor's 500 stock index has jumped about 17 percent this year and set a record high. Even so, investors have grown jittery about the Fed's likely timetable for starting to curtail its bond purchases. Speculation intensified Wednesday after the Fed released a summary of the April 30-May 1 meeting of its policy committee. The minutes said "a number of participants" were open to reducing the Fed's bond purchases as soon as its next meeting June 18-19 — if the economy is showing strong and sustained

growth.

The news caused stocks to gyrate Wednesday, and the Dow Jones industrial average finished down 80 points. On Thursday, investors appeared calmer, but stocks still closed down slightly.

The Fed faces a perilous decision: If it pulls back its stimulus too soon, the U.S. economic recovery could sputter. If it waits too long, super-low rates could ignite inflation. Or they could swell speculative asset bubbles as investors pursue riskier investments with potentially richer returns than low-yielding bonds.

The Fed knows the timing is tricky. It ended its second round of bond purchases in June 2011 only to see economic growth remain weak and unemployment stay at levels more consistent with a recession than a healthy recovery.

In part, that's why the Fed

is expected to move cautiously. Rather than end the bond-buying program altogether, it's likely to reduce its purchases gradually — and perhaps only temporarily. That way, it can wait to see what happens to the economy before deciding whether to keep trimming its purchases. Former Fed economist David Wyss, now a professor at Brown University, predicts that the Fed will trim its monthly bond purchases to \$50 billion from \$85 billion as early as this fall and gradually reduce the pace to zero during 2014.

That the Fed is even considering a pullback in its bond-buying program is a testament to how far the economy has come from the depths of the Great Recession — though it remains far from full health. Employers have added an average of 208,000 jobs a month since November,

up from 138,000 during the previous six months. The unemployment rate has reached a four-year low of 7.5 percent from 8.2 percent in July and a peak of 10 percent during 2009.

On Thursday, the Labor Department said the number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits fell 23,000 last week to a seasonally adjusted 340,000, a level consistent with solid job growth.

The housing market, which had been a drag on growth from 2006 through 2011, is recovering steadily. Sales of new homes sales rose in April, nearly matching the fastest pace in five years and driving the median price to a record \$271,600, the Commerce Department said Thursday. Still, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke on Wednesday told a congressional committee the economy continues to need help. □



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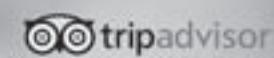
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## Syria spillover fears stoked by gun battles in Lebanon

**ZEINA KARAM**  
Associated Press

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Lebanese supporters and opponents of Syrian President Bashar Assad fired heavy machine guns and lobbed mortar shells at each other Thursday in some of the worst fighting in the port city of Tripoli in years.

The battles raised the five-day death toll to 16 and fed fears of the Syrian civil war spreading to Lebanon and other neighboring countries.

The violence also added to the urgency to U.S.-Russian efforts to bring both sides of the Syrian conflict to a peace conference in Geneva. Members of the Syrian opposition began three day meetings in Istanbul to hash out a unified position on whether to attend, while maintaining that Assad's departure from power should be the goals of the negotiations.

Lebanon has been on edge since the uprising in Syria began in March 2011. The country, which is still struggling to recover from its own 15-year civil war, is sharply divided along sec-

tarian lines and into pro and anti-Assad camps. The overt involvement by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah Shiite militant group alongside Assad's regime has

several occasions, mostly in Tripoli, Lebanon's largest city and a hotbed for Sunni Islamists. This week's fighting there has been linked to a Syrian regime offen-



**Lebanese army soldiers help women to be taken out of the Bab Tabbaneh district of Tripoli to safer areas, in the northern port city of Tripoli, Lebanon, Thursday, May. 23, 2013. Opponents and supporters of Syrian President Bashar Assad traded heavy machine gun fire and mortar shells in the Lebanese port city of Tripoli, leaving five people dead in what was described as some of the heaviest fighting there in years, officials said Thursday.**

(AP Photo)

sparked outrage among many Sunnis in Lebanon who identify with the overwhelmingly Sunni rebels fighting to topple Assad. Deadly sectarian street fighting has erupted on

sive against the rebel-held city of Qusair in western Syria that has included Hezbollah fighters supporting Syrian troops against the rebels. Tripoli is overwhelmingly

Sunni but has a tiny community of Alawites, members of Assad's minority sect, which is an offshoot of Shiite Islam.

Residents reported more than six hours of fighting that began late Wednesday and continued through Thursday morning. Mortar shells were used for the first time. Ambulances rushed back and forth, transporting casualties to hospitals as officials used mosque loudspeakers to urge citizens to take shelter in basements. Schools and many businesses were shuttered Thursday as sporadic fighting continued.

Five people were killed, pushing the overall death toll to 16 since fighting began Sunday, with 200 people wounded, a security official said, speaking on condition of anonymity in line with military regulations.

"It was a frightful night that instilled terror in the heart of every resident of Tripoli," said Shada Dabiz, a 40-year-old peace activist in the city. "Tripoli is part of Lebanon, where is the state? Why doesn't

the government do anything?"

Cabinet minister Faisal Karami said the fighting was among the worst in the city since Lebanon's civil war that ended in 1990, according to comments reported by Lebanon's state-run National News Agency.

Ashraf Rifi, a former police chief who has a large Sunni following in Tripoli, said the flare-up in Tripoli was a direct result of Hezbollah's involvement in Syria and accused the group of "trying to deflect attention" from its participation in the fighting in Syria.

Hezbollah and its allies held a dominant role in the Lebanese government, which resigned in March but continues to function on a caretaker basis. Various Lebanese factions have been unable to agree on the formation of a new government. Fighting in Qusair continued for a fifth day Thursday, after Syrian opposition leaders urged rebels from elsewhere to converge on the town, which is strategically important to both sides. □

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## Iran's Rafsanjani blasts clerics, says report

**NASSER KARIMI**

Associated Press

**TEHRAN, Iran (AP)** — Banned from upcoming elections, Iran's former president has leveled harsh criticism at the Islamic Republic's clerical rulers, saying they are doing a poor job running the country, an Iranian pro-reform website reported late on Wednesday.

The remarks by Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani come days after a constitutional watchdog disqualified him from running in the June 14 presidential election. The wording was particularly strong for Rafsanjani, considered a centrist who generally defers to the supremacy of the ruling clerics. He had previously lashed out at authorities after a crackdown on protests following the disputed 2009 elections.

Because of his stance then, Rafsanjani's 2013 candida-

cy had revitalized reformist hopes.

Rafsanjani has not made any direct public statements since his Tuesday disqualification. The quote was not carried on his official website, and the report could not independently verify.

"I think it is not possible to run the country worse than this," he was quoted as saying.

He singled out the Guardian Council, the watchdog dominated by clerical hardliners that disqualified him, for condemnation.

"Wisdom suggests letting him\_Rafsanjani\_run," he said, referring to himself. "You should have let people come to the ballots hopefully. They do not know what they are doing." Rafsanjani said the Council's decision helps foreign enemies of Iran. Iranian leaders are believed to seek a high turnout in

elections to show that the Islamic Republic is politically strong.

The ex-president's campaign manager has said that he will not protest the decision. But in the remarks published Wednesday, Rafsanjani said he hoped the Council would reconsider. "I am still hopeful. There is a hope that they take a serious decision and give another chance to us and the people," said Rafsanjani.

Rafsanjani was a main leader of the 1979 Islamic revolution that brought the clerics to power. He was the closest confidant of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, spiritual leader of the revolution.

His rejection deals a demoralizing blow to pro-reform groups and boosts the chances of a candidate loyal to Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei winning the election. □

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DALATOU MAMANE  
RUKMINI CALLIMACHI  
Associated Press  
NIAMEY, Niger (AP) — Suicide bombers in Niger detonated two car bombs simultaneously on Thurs-

coing to officials in Niger and France. A surviving attacker took a group of soldiers hostage, and authorities were attempting to negotiate their release.

stallation and a sensitive, foreign-operated uranium mine, highlight the growing reach and sophistication of the Islamic extremists based in neighboring Mali. Both attacks were

which ousted them from

town's in Mali's north. The most deaths were in the desert city of Agadez, located almost 1,000 kilometers (600 miles) northeast of the capital, where the attackers punched their explosive-laden car past the defenses at a military garrison and detonated inside the base, killing 20 soldiers and injuring 16 others, said Niger's Minister of Defense Mahamadou Karidjo at a hastily assembled press conference in Niamey on Thursday. Three suicide bombers also died, but a fourth escaped and grabbed a group of military cadets, said Interior Minister Abdou Labo. Draped in an explosive belt, the attacker was threatening to blow himself up along with his hostages, said Labo, who could not confirm how many cadets were being held. Almost 12 hours later, the military was



Twisted metal lies at the site of a morning car bomb attack inside a military camp in Agadez, in northern Niger, Thursday, May 23, 2013.

(AP Photo)

day, one inside a military camp in the city of Agadez and another in the remote town of Arlit at a French-operated uranium mine, killing a total of 26 people and injuring 30, ac-

The timing of the attacks, which occurred at the same moment more than 100 miles apart, and the fact that the bombers were able to penetrate both a well-guarded military in-

claimed by a spinoff of al-Qaida, the Movement for Oneness and Jihad in West Africa, or MUJAO, which earlier vowed to avenge the four-month-old French-led military intervention



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## Israel to discuss military draft reform proposal

JOSEF FEDERMAN  
Associated Press

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — An official Israeli committee on Thursday handed the government its proposal for ending a contentious system that grants Jewish ultra-Orthodox seminary students automatic exemptions from military service, setting the stage for what could become the first major conflict in the new Israeli coalition government. These exemptions have generated widespread resentment in a country where military service is compulsory for Jewish citizens. Public anger over the exemptions was a central issue in January elections and helped propel the centrist Yesh Atid party to a strong showing.

With a platform calling for a "sharing of the burden," the party promised to end the preferential treatment given to the seminary students. But the committee's proposal, led by Yesh Atid Cabinet Minister Yaakov

Peri, is full of compromises that drew criticism from all directions.

Under the new system, all 17-year-old Jewish males will have to register with the military. But seminary students will be allowed to continue their studies and will not be required to perform their military service until age 21. That could signal a relatively easy term of service since older soldiers typically serve for shorter periods of time.

In addition, the new system won't go into effect for three years, meaning that the thousands of seminary students who currently are studying will never have to serve. "We are talking about a historic correction," Peri said in a statement. "Everyone will share the burden." The proposal includes financial incentives for seminaries whose students cooperate with the law, and would punish seminaries and students who do not comply. It also seeks to limit the number of

students who ultimately receive full-time exemptions for being "exceptional" religious scholars. In all, it aims to enlist roughly 70

ponents to make sure the plan is never carried out. The Yisrael Beiteinu faction in parliament, another member of the coalition,



An Israeli soldier on top of a tank parked in a training ground checks his mobile phone in the Israeli controlled Golan Heights, near the border with Syria Wednesday, May 22, 2013.

(AP Photo/Ariel Schalit)

said the plan did not do enough to ensure that Israel's Arab citizens, who are also exempt from military service, be drafted into national service.

Ultra-Orthodox leaders, meanwhile, said it was an attack on their way of life. Meir Porush, an ultra-Orthodox politician, called it a "miserable bill" meant to destroy religious study. "The future of our existence is in danger," he told the YNet website.

The Israeli Cabinet is set to debate the proposal on Sunday, though Channel 2 TV said Israel's attorney general had requested a two-week delay so he could study the plan's legal aspects. □

## Russian court denies Pussy Riot's Alekhina parole

MAX SEDDON  
Associated Press

**MOSCOW (AP)** — A Russian court denied parole on Thursday to a member of the Pussy Riot punk group. The ruling came despite letters that singers Paul McCartney, Peter Gabriel and Patti Smith have sent, urging Russia's courts to free Maria Alekhina and the other Pussy Riot still in prison, Nadezhda Tolokonnikova. In its ruling on Thursday, a court in Perm province accepted a claim by prosecutors that Alekhina had systematically disobeyed prison authorities and failed to repent for her crime, Russian media reported.

Alekhina went on a hunger strike Wednesday after being barred from the hearing, even though the court is across the street from the prison colony where she is serving her sentence for "hooliganism motivated by religious hatred." She also ordered her defense not to

participate. Band members Alekhina, Tolokonnikova, and Yekaterina Samutsevich gained worldwide notoriety last year when a Moscow court jailed them for two years for conducting a punk protest in Moscow's main cathedral. Samutsevich was later released on appeal.

A lawyer for Alekhina said the artist would appeal Thursday's ruling.

The parole decision came despite two letters dated Monday by McCartney, the former Beatles' star, asking for both jailed Pussy Riot members to be released.

McCartney mailed the letters to a court in Mordovia that had denied Tolokonnikova parole last month, and they were posted online by Pussy Riot supporters. In them, McCartney asks for parole to be granted to Alekhina and Tolokonnikova. □



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## Massive fuel-depot fire breaks out in Rio, Brazil

**RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)** — A massive fire broke out Thursday at a fuel depot on the northern outskirts of Rio de Janeiro, sending bright orange flames leaping high into the air and thick black smoke rolling upward and enveloping the area.

Firefighters said in an emailed statement that no injuries had been reported yet.

They evacuated a two-block area around the blaze. There was no word on a possible cause.

About an hour after the fire broke out, it began to spread from the six fuel

storage tanks that initially caught fire. Residents of the area told Globo TV that they heard loud explosions before the blaze started. Television images showed a firefighter coming to the aid of an elderly woman using a walker. Minutes later, a gas tanker truck caught fire nearby. Firefighters were unable to get within a block of the blaze; its intense heat kept them at bay. Water from two fire trucks arched through the smoke in a mostly futile attempt to control the flames as police helicopters buzzed nearby. □

## Venezuela: Police helicopter crash kills 5

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)** — Venezuelan authorities say a police helicopter has crashed while pursuing suspects in a kidnapping, and all five people aboard have been killed.

Police spokesman Luis Karabin told state television that the helicopter went down Thursday in a forested area east of Caracas. The cause of the crash

was not immediately clear, but Karabin cited atmospheric conditions. He said the pilot, co-pilot, a technician and two police officers were killed in the crash.

Karabin said authorities rescued two people that had been abducted and that one of the two kidnappers was killed during the pursuit. □



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Teenagers gather to watch at fuel storage tanks burning on the northern outskirts of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Thursday, May 23, 2013. (AP Photo/Victor R. Caivano)

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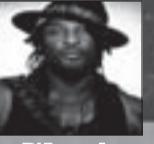
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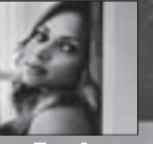
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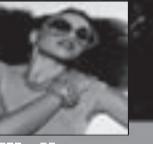
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## Cuba: Canada businessman's corruption trial begins

PETER ORSI

Associated Press

**HAVANA (AP)** — A Canadian businessman caught up in a corruption probe in Cuba apparently went on trial Thursday, nearly two years after he was detained and his import company, Tri-Star Caribbean, was shuttered.

Sarkis Yacoubian arrived at an Interior Ministry court-

to a request for comment. President Raul Castro has repeatedly spoken of a need to root out entrenched corruption on this Communist-run island, and his anti-graft drive has swept up foreign business executives from at least five nations, as well as government officials and dozens of Cuban employees at key state-run compa-

nents, and claimed to have blown the whistle on corruption involving Tri-Star and other companies. "They found out this was an epidemic going all over the place and I was the fall guy," Yacoubian was quoted as saying by the Star and El Nuevo Herald, the Miami Herald's Spanish-language sister newspaper. "They want to give an



Canadian businessman Sarkis Yacoubian, center, goes to court for the start of a corruption trial in Havana, Cuba, Thursday, May 23, 2013. (AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa)

house in Havana in a black sedan with tinted windows, and was seen being escorted inside by two men. He did not speak to reporters, nor did Canadian Ambassador Matthew Levin, who also attended the proceedings. Foreign journalists were not allowed access to the court, and government officials did not immediately respond

nies. The Toronto Star and El Nuevo Herald reported last week that Yacoubian was indicted last month on charges of bribery, tax evasion and "activities damaging to the economy." He reportedly faces up to 12 years in prison. In a phone interview from jail, he said he had no choice but to pay island officials to secure business

example to the rest of the businessmen. They want to scare them to death." Another Canadian businessman, Cy Tokmakjian, president of the Tokmakjian Group, which was raided and closed down in September 2011, is also awaiting trial, as is a Briton who headed the investment firm Coral Capital Group. □

## Dominicans arrest 4 in smuggling case

**SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)** — Dominican authorities have arrested four men from Sri Lanka accused of smuggling at least 60 migrants from India and the Middle East into the U.S. and Canada using fake passports. The suspects would smuggle the migrants from Europe to Haiti and then cross them into the Dominican Republic, Maximo Munoz, spokesman for the National Investigations Department, said late Wednesday.

Officials said the alleged leader of the group is a Canadian citizen identified as 42-year-old Karunhanithy Nallathamby, who lived near the northern coastal cities of Sosua and Cabarete. The region is especially popular with tourists from Europe and Canada. Nallathamby was in charge of obtaining passports in Canada that would later be altered and given to migrants once they reached the Dominican Republic, said Fidel Calcagno, direc-

tor of the National Investigations Department. He said the majority of migrants had criminal backgrounds and would stay in Nallathamby's house for up to two months before traveling to the U.S. or Canada.

The other three suspects were identified as Kohulan Selvarasa, who had a valid Sri Lankan passport, and David Kristen and Sriram Kannan, whom authorities said had fake Canadian passports. □

## Turks and Caicos recovers cash and land amid probe

DANICA COTO

Associated Press

**SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)** — Officials in the

Turks and Caicos Islands have recovered \$19.5 million and more than 2,500 acres (1,000 hectares) of real estate as they continue to seize assets improperly obtained by corrupt politicians.

Thursday's announcement comes six months after the territory resumed self-government after three years of direct rule imposed by Britain due to a corruption scandal that led to the arrest of the island's jet-setting ex-premier in Brazil.

The assets seized include prime seafront property and land in Salt Cay that was projected to be the site of a high-end resort built by a developer who allegedly obtained special immigration status in exchange for a \$1.6 million loan.

The amount of cash and property seized is expected to increase as courts rule on additional cases involving millions of dollars and more than 1,000 acres (400 hectares) of land identified as ill-gotten assets by the Edwards Wildman law firm contracted to help recover the property.

The firm's deputy managing partner, Laurence Harris, said most of the 62 civil cases currently open should be resolved by late summer, with four trials scheduled to start before the end of July.

He said the property may help the government work with developers to create projects that generate long-term revenues in the territory, a popular tourist destination and financial haven that lies southeast of Miami.

"Land is the island's primary resource," he told The Associated Press in a phone interview. "Any land that is recovered is potentially hugely valuable ... There are gorgeous beaches, beautiful

shorelines ... When you sell land cheaply, you lose control over it."

A British-appointed commission reported in 2009 that it had found evidence of systematic corruption when it looked into allegations that local politicians were taking payoffs from developers and creating a "climate of fear" in the tiny British territory of about 47,000 people.

Some of the land was sold at low prices or given to politicians, Turks and Caicos Islands governor's spokesman Neil Smith said in a phone interview.

"There was a whole number of dodgy things that needed to be investigated," he said.

The premier at the time, Michael Misick, resigned after the commission released its report. Misick later vanished, only to be arrested Dec. 7 in Rio de Janeiro, where he awaits extradition. Authorities also are seeking to interview Miami developer Cem Kinay in the case, but have not located him.

The Turks and Caicos has struggled to recover financially after the corruption scandal and lavish spending by several politicians. In 2011, the territory received a \$417 million bailout from the U.K. and its \$70 million budget deficit has since been whittled down.

The government also is awaiting the start of criminal trials in the corruption case. Thirteen people have been charged with corruption, including five former Cabinet ministers, four of them from Misick's administration. Two of the 13 have settled their cases after paying large fines, while the others await trial. The judicial process has been delayed because the suspects are seeking legal aid, Smith said. "They want more public money to help defend themselves, which is ironic given the charges," he said. □

# LOCAL Aruba TODAY

## Art Rules Aruba predicts fashion show will be EPIC!

- Art Rules Aruba is calling all fashion Designers, makeup Artists, hair Stylists', fashion Directors and Producers, as this year's fashion show will be EPIC!

ORANJESTAD - RBC Royal Bank's 4th edition of ART RULES ARUBA is back with one of its most popular workshops; FASHION. Presented by New York based Fashion Stylist and Editor Christina Madry, Christina joins a team of international Teachers who are coming to Aruba for a 2 week summer workshop program.

Teaching over 250 young aspiring teens, who want to pursue a study or career in the Arts,

Art Rules presents workshops in 9 disciplines: Fashion, Creative Media, DJ, Theater, Dance, Street Art, Rap & Poetry, Music & Performance and this year's Bonus Workshop Culinary Arts for the aspiring chef! With fashion being one of the most popular classes in the program, producers at the Pancake Gallery Foundation decided to bring a teacher from the fashion capitol of the world New York City!

Giving students a chance to learn from a professional whom has seen everything from New York Fashion Week to Haute Couture exhibitions in Paris, lifelong student of the business of fashion, from design and construction, to creative marketing and advertising, Christina Madry is getting ready for the job.

Christina attended Hampton University, in Virginia where she earned her B.SC in Marketing.

Upon graduation she moved to New York City to work in buying and merchandising before becoming a freelancer as a Stylist, working for Lauryn



Hill, L'Oreal and Harper's Bazaar as well as several accredited films and commercial print jobs.

Styling took Christina to Paris where she apprenticed for a Haute Couture Stylist, working with some of the world's most iconic luxury houses such as Yves Saint Laurent, Vivienne Westwood, Emanuel Ungaro and Christian LaCroix. Upon her return from Paris, Christina was brought into Macy's Corporate Marketing as an in-house stylist and within a few months was promoted to Photo Producer, casting national ad campaigns for the largest department store in the United States.

Christina moved on to pur-

suing her lifelong goal of obtaining her M.A. at Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design in London, where such designers as Alexander McQueen, Stella McCartney and Riccardo Tisci (Givenchy) are alumnus. Christina currently runs Modelogs, a site that provides luxury advertising and marketing with access to global talent, utilizing an aggregate business model. She is also the editor of Modelogs Daily, which provides across-the-board news on talent and beauty via social media.

As explained by ARA Producers of the Pancake Gallery, "her story is inspiring for young Aruban's who want to pursue a career in any

field in Fashion as Christina brings in so many different perspectives.

This is what's going to make this year's ARA Fashion class super interesting and strong not to mention offer these kids on Aruba best in the field".

Dividing her time between New York and London Christina is currently preparing the ARA fashion class which will be all about Lights, Camera and Action. Photo shoots, styling, casting, hair & make-up and digital branding. Educating students about different aspects of the creative fashion industry, from Haute Couture, Contemporary Sportswear to Street wear. Students will explore

a wide range of fashion houses and cult brands such as the well known Chanel or Ralph Lauren. It all starts on July 15th in an intensive 2-week program at Abraham de Veer College in San Nicolas.

How to apply for this class? Simply go to [www.artrulesaruba.com](http://www.artrulesaruba.com) and read more about the program, teachers and all updates. RBC presents Art Rules Aruba 2013 is also powered by Aruba Airport Authority, Prins Bernhard Cultuur Fonds Caribisch gebied, La Trattoria El Faro Blanco, La Cabana Beach Resort, Playa Linda Beach Resort, Caribbean Palm Village Resorts, Office Systems and Marketing Plus. □

## Sweet Escape enjoys the hospitality of Amazonia Churrascaria

**PALM BEACH** – More than 50 island visitors, were fortunate to win a trip titled

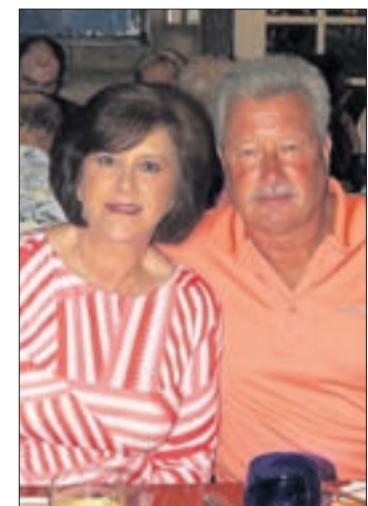
"Sweet Escape" offered by the Wind Creek Casino and Hotel, from Atmore,



Alabama as a reward to loyal casino players. This is the 2nd time that the Creek Casino brings winners to Aruba, and some of the players pictured here, have been here on both occasions, exactly one year ago, and again, this week, enjoying their second trip to the island. The company which also operates Creek Casino Montgomery and Creek Casino Wetumpka dined



and wined guests in great style, besides organizing other diverse activities such as slot tournaments at the Palm Beach Casino at the Westin, where the group is staying. The Alabama group feasted on prime cuts of choice grilled meats and a sensational 52 item fresh-ingredient salad bar, enjoying the fruity sangria and tropical caipirinha the most. Pictured here the unforgettable dinner at Amazonia Churrascaria. □



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**Diana  
and  
Anabela**

Sisters Diana and Anabela are in Aruba with their parents. It is their first time in Aruba and they love it.



7 Years and Counting:

## Bugaloe Welcomes Back British Couple Robin and Wendy!

**PALM BEACH** - Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill is happy to welcome back English couple Robin and Wendy Ramsey. They've been loyal Aruba and Bugaloe guests for 7 years. Over the years they've become real friends with the Bugaloe Crew and therefore can be found at Bugaloe for both lunch and dinner. They just love the Garlic Prawns on the menu which they keep local with some Balashi Chills and homemade mojito's in between! Not only the fantastic food is the reason for picking Bugaloe as their favorite hang-out spot, both the outstanding staff and fantastic atmosphere keep them returning! They feel so comfortable at Bugaloe that Robin even got the crowd roaring for more at his stunning karaoke performance last Saturday night! The Bugaloe crew can't wait for next Saturday to see an more! Robin and Wendy's best memory however is drinking shots on their last night, last year in May, and the whole crew signed a \$20 bill for them to remember the evening by! Another funny experience was when one of the owners of Bugaloe jumped in the water with his dog and swam back to the shore together! They'll never forget the surprise of that! The Bugaloe crew would just like to thank Robin and Wendy for being such loyal Bugaloe guests and hope to see them more often! □



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CASINO AND SHOPS

**RCI names 'Diamond Award' winners:**

## Playa Linda staff members receive regional recognition



**PALM BEACH** -- The high level of hospitality offered on Aruba is well exemplified by the Playa Linda Beach Resort, where Members Accounting Manager Alvaro Gonzales and Front Office and Reservations Manager Rolando de Cuba were both recently singled out for their outstanding customer service. Caribbean Account Executive Cherie Jeffries, with the exchange company of RCI, was recently on island to personally present both recipients with the honor of the "Diamond Award".

"RCI is the leading exchange company because it successfully identifies all the factors that guarantee an unmatched



vacation experience. The 'Diamond Award' helps recognize the people behind the resort, providing well-deserved attention to the individuals who are the heart and soul of a vacation property," explains Cherie.

The Diamond Award is offered every year to a resort's operations team member who continually goes above and beyond

what is expected, exudes a positive and friendly attitude and provides RCI exchange guests and owners with the best possible service experience. Only 250 to 300 people, out of all the RCI-affiliated resorts in Latin America and Caribbean, receive this award each year.

Recipients Rolando and Alvaro demonstrate a long, solid history in acting as role models for their fellow colleagues, having both earned the Diamond Award in the past, along with various in-house accolades. Their contributions have helped to maintain Playa Linda's Gold Crown Resort status, RCI's highest rating for resorts that dis-

play continuous improvement of the property and an unwavering attention to service to guests.

Positive comment card evaluations from exchanges help further define the Playa Linda as tops in guest experience.

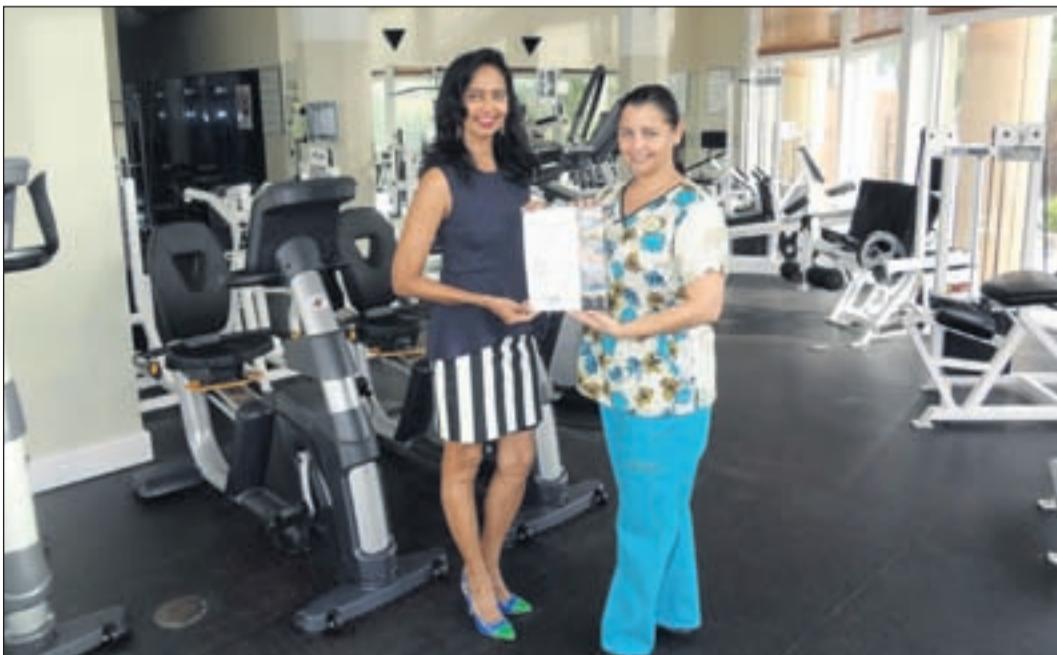
"[Playa Linda General Manager] Jan van Nes has demonstrated he is a visionary in helping establish new categories of units, including the penthouse, town homes and spa unit, and in always ensuring a friendly, high level of service at the resort," Cherie comments. "We are as much impressed by the Playa Linda as by the level of dedication of its staff, such as Rolando and Alvaro." □

## For Mother's Day:

### Pure Spa and Fitness Center awards happy raffle winner!

**PALM BEACH** - The well-renowned artist, Mrs. Grace Ashruf Rahusen is the very happy winner of a two-night stay at the gorgeous Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort! Pure Spa and Fitness Center is one of the Divi-owned Fitness Centers, where a wide variety of spa services are also performed.

Mrs. Ashruf Rahusen has been a loyal fitness center member since March 11th 2003 and confesses that her ideas for her artwork and paintings come to life during her workouts at the Pure Spa and Fitness Center. She says she cannot create if she doesn't



work out. Working out is a must for her, it is just as daily as having to eat.

The idea for this terrific raffle originated by the resort's new General Manager, the dynamic Mr. Gerrit Griffith. The raffle was held on May 15th during the weekly department manager's meeting, and the winner was randomly selected by the Assistant Controller, Mrs. Lilian Kock. In the picture is the Fitness Center and Spa Manager, Ms. Wendy Laclé presenting the grateful and excited Mrs. Grace Ashruf Rahusen with her two-night stay certificate. □

## SPORTS

## Aruba TODAY



Ryan Palmer lines up a putt on the fifth hole during the first round of the Colonial golf tournament Thursday, May 23, 2013, in Fort Worth, Texas.

Associated Press

**Colonial member  
Palmer has 1st-  
round lead with 62**

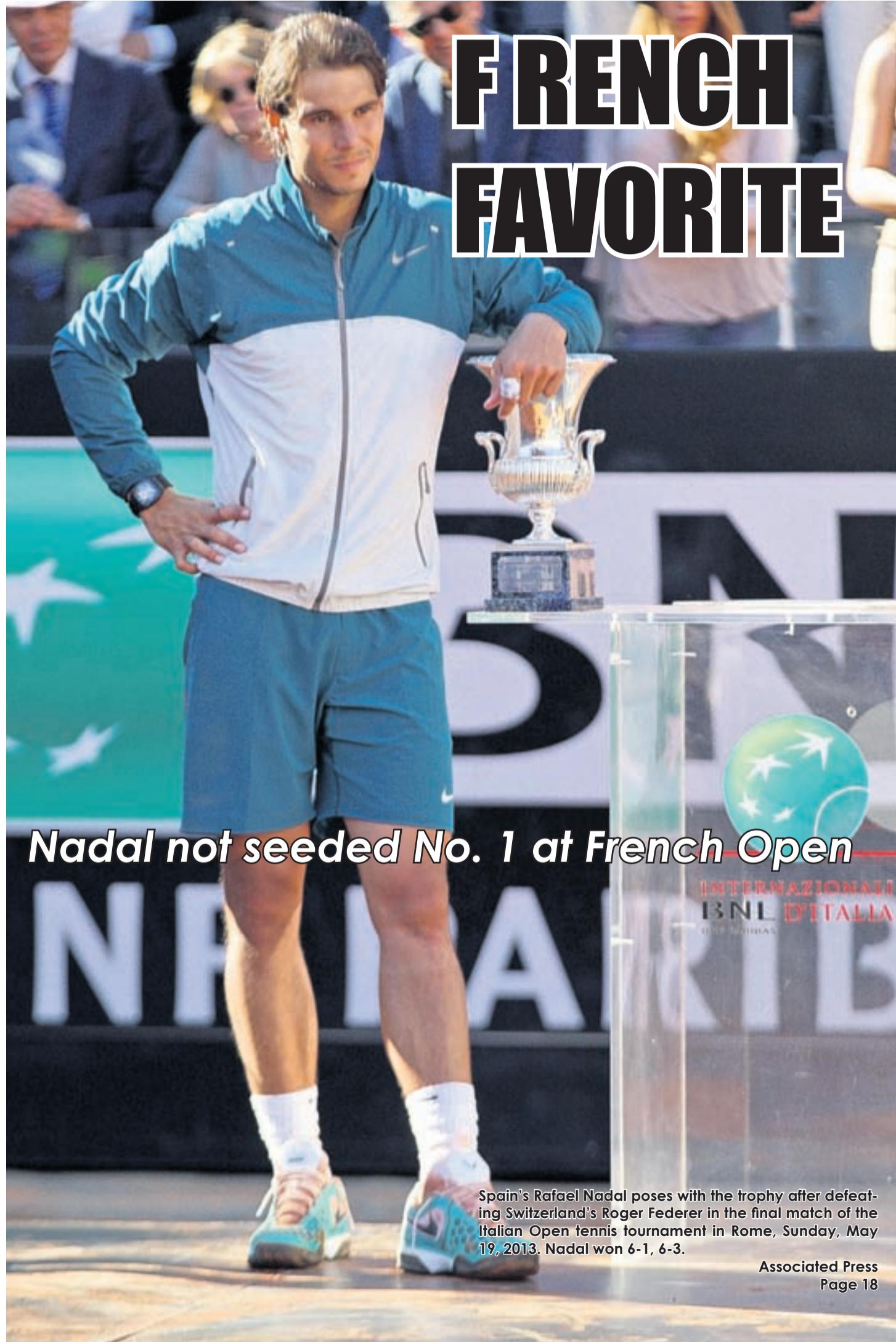
STEPHEN HAWKINS  
AP Sports Writer

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)

— Ryan Palmer showed off his local expertise by shooting an 8-under 62 on Thursday that matched the lowest PGA Tour first round at Colonial, giving him a one-stroke lead over John Rollins.

For all the rounds Palmer has played at Colonial, where he has been a full dues-paying member since 2010, he had never had such a low score. He generally plays there two or three times a week during the offseason and once or twice during weeks he's not playing the PGA Tour. "These old men here make me grind because I have to give them so many shots. Maybe that helps," Palmer said, smiling. "Usually in a practice round, I don't think I've shot below 65. In this situation, you grind a little harder. You are able to focus more. When I'm out here with the guys, I mean half the time I might grab a few (beers) for the back nine."

Continued on Page 20



## Nadal favored, but not seeded No. 1 at French Open

HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Tennis Writer

**PARIS (AP)** — Used to be the French Open was the scene for clay-court specialists and surprise champions.

Scan the list of past winners and runners-up.

There's Gaston Gaudio and Albert Costa, Guillermo Coria and Martin Verkerk, Andres Gomez and Mariano Puerta.

Not so much a "Who's Who." More like a "Who's He?"

The women's list features fewer out-of-nowhere names, yet does include those such as Iva Majoli, Anastasia Myskina and Francesca Schiavone, who all won the French Open while never making it past the quarterfinals at any other major championship.

With the year's second Grand Slam tournament set to begin Sunday at Roland Garros, there is little thought being given to that sort of stunning outcome, thanks to Rafael Nadal and Serena Williams. As seven-time major champion John McEnroe put it: "It's pretty obvious who the favorite is."

He meant, of course, Nadal, who won his record seventh French Open title last year and is 52-1 for his

career at the place. Consider, too, the nearly perfect way the Spaniard has played after seven months off the tour because of a left knee injury: Since returning in February, Nadal is 36-2, reaching the finals at all eight tournaments he's entered, winning six. "I am enjoying every moment, and eight finals in a row is wonderful," Nadal said. "Four, five months ago, it was impossible to think about this."

He wore a wrap of white tape below that troublesome knee while practicing Thursday afternoon on Court Philippe Chatrier with the temperature in the 40s (below 10 degrees Celsius) for about an hour before heavy rain fell; the forecast is for more wet weather in the coming days.

Nadal has cut down on the amount of time he spends training on court, one concession to recurring knee problems, which also forced him to pull out of Wimbledon in 2009, when he would have been the defending champion.

"I'm really happy for him, and impressed that he's come back," said McEnroe, now a TV analyst. "It seems like he's barely lost anything, if at all. Right now, he seems to be fi-



Spain's Rafael Nadal celebrates after defeating Spain's David Ferrer at the Italian Open tennis tournament in Rome, Friday, May 17, 2013. Nadal won 6-4 4-6 6-2. Associated Press

nally, he says, playing the best he's been playing the whole year, which is sort of frightening for the other players."

And yet Nadal will not be seeded No. 1 when the draw is held Friday.

That's because the French Open decided to strictly follow the rankings, and

while he could have opted to ignore the rankings — and even contemplated doing so, because Nadal is "the best player on clay" and Roland Garros "is a bit like his garden" — there wasn't a consensus it was the proper thing to do.

"You can understand the argument that those who are higher than him in the rankings in a certain way deserve their ranking," Ysern said, "and to move these players back to move Nadal forward could have been considered unfair."

Nadal, for his part, did not sound too fussed about the matter, saying, "I had a very good chance to be No. 10 (given the time off), and there are lots of chances to be worse, and I accept the situation."

So last year's French Open runner-up to Nadal, Novak Djokovic, will be seeded No. 1, and 17-time major champion Roger Federer will be seeded No. 2.

Djokovic handed Nadal one of his two losses of 2013, in the Monte Carlo final on clay last month, proof that Nadal is not completely invincible, even on the slow surface he dominates.

The No. 1-ranked Williams, meanwhile, has been unbeatable lately. □



Italy's Vincenzo Nibali pedals in the individual mountain time trial during the 18th stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race, from Mori to Polsa, Thursday, May 23, 2013.

Associated Press

**POLSA, Italy (AP)** — Vincenzo Nibali won the individual mountain time trial in the 18th stage of the Giro d'Italia on Thursday to extend his overall lead.

The Italian finished in 44 minutes, 29 seconds on the 20.6-kilometer (12.8-mile) uphill route from Mori

to Polsa for his first stage victory in this year's race. Samuel Sanchez was 58 seconds behind. Damiano Caruso was third, 1:20 behind Nibali.

Nibali, who finished third and second in his last two Giro d'Italia races, extended his lead to 4:02 over

## Nibali wins Giro time trial to extend overall lead

Cadel Evans and remains on course to win his country's biggest cycling race for the first time. There are three stages remaining.

Evans had a miserable day and finished the course in 25th place.

At one point it even looked like Evans would be caught by Nibali, who started three minutes behind the Australian. Evans is now 10 seconds ahead of third-place Rigoberto Uran. "It's not for lack of trying that I lost a minute or two minutes," Evans said.

"I came to this Giro with high hopes, but not high expectations. My real objective was to give my best, and, until this point,

I've made a few mistakes, but nothing big.

So in that regard, in terms of giving my best, that's great.

"But of course you want to be winning — and that's maybe when your hopes rise above your capabilities. I'm unlikely to win, but I came here for training for the Tour de France. Second place at this point is not so bad."

Nibali has dominated this year's Giro to wear the pink jersey since the time trial in the eighth stage.

Evans had been looking to gain some time on this stage but was nowhere near Nibali, whose speed allowed him to move near-

ly 1 1/2 minutes ahead of the Australian Evans in the first half of the race. He extended that gap as rain fell heavily at the finish.

Sanchez had hoped for a stage victory after taking the lead by 22 seconds, but his time was annihilated by Nibali.

Friday's 19th stage is the first of two more mountain legs, a 139-kilometer (86-mile) route from Ponte di Legno to Val Martello. There are three climbs of more than 2,000 meters, though they might have to be altered because of avalanche threats and sub-zero temperatures.

The Giro ends May 26 in Brescia. □

## NHL Playoffs Roundup

# Penguins rout Senators 7-3, take 3-1 series lead

**OTTAWA (AP)** — Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby was careful not to get too far ahead of himself after helping the Penguins beat the Ottawa Senators 7-3 on Wednesday to take a 3-1 lead in the NHL Eastern Conference semifinal series.

"I'm not talking about anything ahead of Game 5," the Pittsburgh captain said when asked about a potential Eastern Conference final against the Boston Bruins.

But after the result and the manner of victory on Wednesday, it's hard to imagine Crosby and his teammates aren't starting to think about facing the Bruins — up 3-0 in their series against the New York Rangers.

Jarome Iginla and James Neal each scored twice for

the Penguins while Crosby, Chris Kunitz and Pascal Dupuis added goals, and Tomas Vokoun made 30 saves.

Down 2-1 after the first period, the visitors scored twice in a 40-second span early in the second and added four goals in the first 10 minutes in the third.

Milan Michalek, Kyle Turris and Daniel Alfredsson scored for Ottawa. Senators goalie Craig Anderson was benched after Pittsburgh's sixth goal, and Robin Lehner finished the game.

"There was a sense like, 'OK, this might take as many shots as we can muster to break this guy.' And fortunately, we kept on that mindset," Penguins coach Dan Bylsma said. "It was a

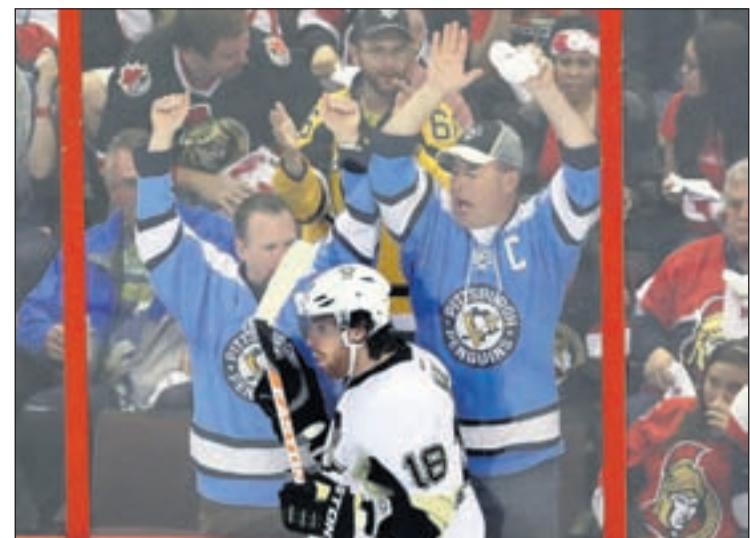
matter of, 'We are going to

have to fire anything and everything we can at this guy to get one by him.'" Game 5 is Friday in Pittsburgh.

"I know what we're going to do," Alfredsson said. "We're going to go out and play one hell of a game. That doesn't worry me at all. We never quit and that's not going to stop now. We know the odds are against us in every way, but we never quit and that's going to continue."

The Senators opened the scoring on Michalek's short-handed goal at 2:29 of the first period. Alfredsson fed the puck up the middle to a streaking Michalek, who broke through the defense and beat Vokoun low on the glove side.

It was the Senators' first lead of the series and it



As fans, background, react, Pittsburgh Penguins' James Neal (18) celebrates his third-period goal against the Ottawa Senators during NHL playoff hockey game action in Ottawa, Ontario, Wednesday, May 22, 2013.

Associated Press

wouldn't last.

Neal tied it with 5:04 left in the period, picking up the loose puck in the slot and putting it in the back of the net.

Turris put Ottawa back in front off a rebound with 3:45 left in the first.

Pittsburgh tied it early in the second when Kunitz got behind the defense and went in alone to beat Anderson. Less than a minute later, Anderson gave

up a rebound on Kris Letang's shot that landed on the tape of Iginla's stick to make it 3-2.

Neal started the third-period flurry with a power-play goal at 1:59. Dupuis added a short-handed goal at 8:07, Crosby followed at 8:39, and Iginla scored on a power play at 9:53.

Alfredsson finished the scoring with a late power-play goal for his 100th career playoff point. □

## NL Capsules

## After Mattingly criticism, Dodgers top Brewers 9-2

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** — Dodgers manager Don Mattingly criticized his team and benched All-Star right fielder Andre Ethier, then watched Los Angeles beat the Milwaukee Brewers 9-2 on Wednesday.

Mattingly, in the third and final year of his contract, discussed his club's lack of mental toughness and said he wanted a balanced team that has grit and fight. He benched Ethier for the third time in six games and said he was "putting out my lineup that I feel is going to be the most competitive and going to compete the hardest."

Carl Crawford and Scott Van Slyke had two RBIs apiece and Ramon Hernandez hit his first home run with the Dodgers, who took two of three from the Brewers but remain in last place in the NL West. Hyun-Jin Ryu (5-2) allowed two runs and six hits in a season-high 7 1-3 innings.

Milwaukee starter Wily Per-

alta (3-5) gave up six runs — four earned — and seven hits in 1 2-3 innings.

### NATIONALS 2, GIANTS 1, 10 INNINGS

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Ian Desmond singled in Bryce Harper in the 10th inning, helping Washington avoid a three-game series sweep.

Harper hit his 12th homer in the sixth and sparked the winning rally with a one-out double. Ryan Zimmerman was walked intentionally before Desmond came up with his big hit against Jeremy Affeldt (1-1).

Tyler Clippard (3-1) pitched a perfect 10th for the win and Rafael Soriano got three outs for his 14th save. He failed to convert each of his last two chances, including Tuesday night's 4-2 loss.

Buster Posey hit a tying RBI single for San Francisco in the eighth. Marco Scutaro went 0 for 3 with two walks, ending his 19-game hitting streak. He flew out to deep



Los Angeles Dodgers manager Don Mattingly watches from the dugout during the first inning of a baseball game against the Milwaukee Brewers Wednesday, May 22, 2013, in Milwaukee.

Associated Press

left to end the game.

### ROCKIES 4, DIAMONDBACKS 1

**DENVER (AP)** — Carlos Gonzalez homered and drove in two runs, Jorge De La Rosa pitched effectively into the sixth and the Rockies took two of three from the Diamondbacks.

Dexter Fowler had two hits in his first start in the cleanup spot and Nolan Arenado added an RBI double as the Rockies caught the Di-

amondbacks in the standings. Colorado, Arizona and San Francisco are now tied atop the NL West with 26-21 records.

De La Rosa (6-3) allowed a run and six hits in 5 1-3 innings. Edgmer Escalona and Matt Belisle bottled up Arizona to get the ball to Rex Brothers, who closed the ninth with Rafael Betancourt sidelined by a groin injury. It was Brothers' first save of the season.

Arizona right-hander Trevor Cahill (3-5) was charged with four runs and seven hits in six innings.

### CARDINALS 5, PADRES 3

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — Tyler Lyons pitched seven solid innings in his major league debut on the same day St. Louis lost Jaime Garcia for the season.

Lyons, who was promoted from Triple-A Memphis after Garcia went on the disabled list, allowed one run and four hits. The 25-year-old left-hander was a ninth-round draft pick in 2010 out of Oklahoma State.

The Cardinals announced before that game that Garcia will have season-ending shoulder surgery this week. The lefty went 5-2 with a 3.58 ERA in nine starts this year, helping St. Louis bolt to the majors' best record at 30-16.

Yadier Molina had four hits and Carlos Beltran finished with three as the Cardinals took two of three from the Padres. □

# Bautista powers Blue Jays past Rays 4-3

The Associated Press

**TORONTO (AP)** — Jose Bautista homered twice and drove in the winning run with a 10th-inning single, leading the Toronto Blue Jays to a 4-3 victory over the Tampa Bay Rays on Wednesday.

Bautista went 4 for 4 with a walk and four RBIs. Three other players had one hit, but that was it for Toronto's offense. Facing Cesar Ramos (1-1), Colby Rasmus reached on an infield single to begin the 10th. Rasmus moved to second on Emilio Bonifacio's sacrifice, then took third on Munenori Kawasaki's grounder. Pinch hitter Mark DeRosa walked and Kyle Farnsworth came on to face Bautista, who singled into shallow right for the Blue Jays' first game-ending hit of the season.

Aaron Loup (2-3) pitched one inning for the win as Toronto took two of three to win a series against Tampa Bay for the first time since August 2010. The Rays had won their past 15 series against the Blue Jays. The teams were tied at 2 before Tampa Bay got a run in the ninth. Evan Longoria hit a one-out double off closer Casey Janssen,



**Toronto Blue Jays' Jose Bautista breaks his bat as he hits the game-winning single in the 10th inning of a baseball game against the Tampa Bay Rays in Toronto, Wednesday May 22, 2013.**

Associated Press

extending his hitting streak to 16 games. James Loney followed with an RBI single. But Fernando Rodney couldn't nail down the save, yielding a leadoff home run to Bautista in the bottom half.

**RED SOX 6, WHITE SOX 2**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Clay Buchholz pitched five-hit ball over seven innings to improve to 7-0, and Boston

beat Chicago to avoid a three-game sweep.

David Ortiz delivered a two-run single in the first off Hector Santiago (1-3), and the Red Sox backed Buchholz with several neat defensive plays on the way to their sixth win in eight games.

Jonny Gomes made a sliding catch on Paul Konerko's line drive to left with two on to end the first. Jacoby

Ellsbury raced to the center-field warning track to snag Alexei Ramirez's liner with a runner on and two out in the fifth to preserve a 2-1 lead. Boston added to it in the eighth when Will Middlebrooks hit a sacrifice fly to right off Nate Jones after the Red Sox loaded the bases against Brian Omogrosso in the eighth, and Mike Napoli scored on a passed ball by Tyler Flowers to make it 4-1. The Red Sox scored two more in the ninth to put this one away. Buchholz allowed just one run while lowering his American League-leading ERA to 1.73. He also matched the best start by a Boston pitcher since Josh Beckett in 2007 and joined Tampa Bay's Matt Moore and Arizona's Patrick Corbin as the only unbeaten pitchers in the majors with seven or more wins.

**ORIOLES 6, YANKEES 3**

**BALTIMORE (AP)** — Chris Davis went 4 for 4, including his AL-leading 14th homer, and Baltimore got a three-run shot from Matt Wieters in a victory over New York. Nick Markakis added a solo home run for the Orioles, who took two of three from New York to pull within three games of the first-

place Yankees in the AL East. Curtis Granderson homered, doubled and singled for New York. Needing a triple to reach the cycle, he drew a walk in the seventh inning. David Adams hit a ninth-inning homer for the Yankees, his second in three games. The teams combined for 13 home runs in the series, including five in the finale. Yankees starter Hiroki Kuroda left in the third with a bruised right calf, one inning after he was struck in the leg by a line drive off the bat of Manny Machado. Kuroda (6-3) allowed five runs and eight hits in two-plus innings. Jason Hammel (6-2) gave up two runs and seven hits in 6 2-3 innings to even his lifetime record against the Yankees to 3-3. After Kuroda retired the first two batters he faced, Markakis homered. Adam Jones followed with a single and Davis hit a 3-2 pitch over the wall in center.

**RANGERS 3, ATHLETICS 1**

**ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)** — David Murphy and Adrian Beltre homered in a three-run first inning, Ross Wolf was strong in his first major league start and Texas avoided a sweep with a victory against Oakland. □

## Colonial

Continued on Page 20

Graham DeLaet, wearing pants with a plaid design similar to the jacket Colonial winners get, matched Morgan Hoffmann, David Hearn and John Peterson at 64. Matt Kuchar, No. 13 in the world ranking and the highest-ranked player in the 136-man invitational field, was in a group of six players at 65.

Rollins, who like Palmer lives in nearby Colleyville, has playing privileges at Colonial like other PGA Tour players though he doesn't play the 7,204-yard layout nearly as much as Palmer.

"He's a pretty permanent fixture in the men's group and everything that goes on out here," Rollins said. Palmer, who has three PGA Tour victories, had a bogey-free round, hitting 12 of 14 fairways and 14



**Graham DeLaet blows debris from his ball before putting on the 18th hole during the first round of the PGA Tour Colonial golf tournament on Thursday, May 23, 2013, in Fort Worth, Texas.**

Associated Press

of 18 greens in regulation, with his first birdie putt being his longest. He was still even par until his 17-footer on his fifth hole, the 442-yard 14th, that started his stretch of four consecutive birdies. The only other

birdie over 10 feet was a 14-footer at the 391-yard sixth hole. "It's pretty neat. A lot of fun," Palmer said. "Being a member here, we played it so many times, James and I. I felt comfortable over every tee shot.

I hit driver almost everywhere that I could. I drove it perfectly today I felt. I hit it close a lot and made a lot of putts from about 5 or 6 feet. ... (Playing partner) Brian Stuard's caddie even made a comment on how comfortable I was because I've done it so many times." In his nine previous PGA Tour appearances at Colonial, Palmer's only top 10 was a tie for fifth last year. He missed the cut in 2010, the same year he became a full member. Now he finally leads at Colonial after matching his best-ever round on the PGA Tour.

"This is what I dream about when I play here every year," Palmer said. "This is the one tournament I gear up for the most." The course record of 61 is shared by six players, the last Chad Campbell in 2004. Rollins' only bogey

came after his drive at the 431-yard 12th landed in a fairway bunker. But he quickly got that shot back at the 193-yard 13th hole when he hit his tee shot within 7 feet of the cup.

Kuchar's only bogey came at the 241-yard, par-3 fourth, the middle hole of Colonial's famed "horrible horseshoe" because of the layout of a three-hole stretch where that par 3 is sandwiched by the two longest par 4s on the course. But he came right back with a 10-foot birdie at the 472-yard fifth to get to 5 under. Colonial is one of Kuchar's favorite courses. Plus, the PGA Tour's two-week visit to the Dallas-Fort Worth area for the Byron Nelson Championship and the Colonial provides extra time for him to work with his Dallas-based swing coach. □

# Krzyzewski returning to coach USA Basketball

**AARON BEARD**  
AP Basketball Writer

**DURHAM, N.C. (AP)** -- Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski just couldn't pass on "the ultimate honor" of representing his country again as the U.S. men's national team coach.

Krzyzewski is returning as coach through 2016, extending a run that included leading the Americans to two straight Olympic golds while helping reshape a program that needed a jolt to keep up with the growth of international basketball. "I really thought I wasn't going to do it," Krzyzewski said during a news conference Thursday. "But now that I am doing it, I can tell you I am doing it with 100 percent commitment and passion - but with seven years of experience of having done it before."

Krzyzewski, 66, took over as coach as USA Basketball began its national-team program in 2005. Since then, Krzyzewski has led the U.S. men's team filled with NBA stars to Olympic gold medals in Beijing in 2008 and London in 2012. He also led the Americans to the gold at the 2010 FIBA World Championship, and the team has a 50-game winning streak dating back to 2006.

Krzyzewski - a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and a former Army captain who also spent five years as coach at West Point - had said several times that London would be the final stop of his international coaching career. But USA Basketball chairman Jerry Colangelo wanted to wait on any discussion until after Krzyzewski finished his season with Duke.

His patience paid off, prompting Colangelo - speaking by teleconference - to say he was hap-

py to continue what had been "a heck of a ride and a great journey."

"I'm kind of old-fashioned, I never really accepted the fact he wasn't coming back," Colangelo said. "I felt time would be what he needed in terms of a tonic to ... weigh the positives and whatever negatives there may be. I just think it's a perfect fit for him."

"I think his legacy is very much tied to USA Basketball as it is certainly is to Duke University. I could not have picked a better guy to be in that foxhole with than Coach K."

Colangelo apparently didn't miss an opportunity to persuade Krzyzewski to return. The coach said Colangelo took his wife, Mickie, to dinner as part of his push and once tried to sell him on returning over a meal of "room-service pizza and some chicken fingers."

"You got me pretty cheap," Krzyzewski quipped. Krzyzewski said he conferred with his family before deciding to return. He has also said several times over the years that being the U.S. coach has made him better at his job at Duke, where he has won most of his 957 career victories to rank as the winningest coach in Division I men's basketball history. He's won four NCAA championships, reached 11 Final Fours and won 13 Atlantic Coast Conference tournaments with the Blue Devils. Last year, Duke notched its 13th 30-win season before falling to eventual champion Louisville in the NCAA regional finals.

"I got better doing it," Krzyzewski said of his time as U.S. coach. "Just like a player gets better from doing it, we all got better. And that energizes you because

it's like a teacher learning new material. I'm 66. I don't know how you're supposed to feel at 66. I never think of my age. ... But I feel energetic, passionate, wanting to achieve."

Krzyzewski's commitment to coach the team means he will be on the bench for the 2014 FIBA Basketball World Cup in Spain as well as the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. His on-court work over the next four summers begins with a team mini-camp in Las Vegas in July.

With Krzyzewski in charge, the Americans are 62-1 over the last seven years. NBA players were first used in the 1992 Olympics and an NBA coach had always led the team during that time. But as international competition steadily improved, once-invulnerable American teams finished sixth in the 2002 FIBA World Championship then lost three times en route to a bronze in the 2004 Olympics in Athens.

Krzyzewski's first U.S. team ended up with a bronze during the 2006 World Championship, but has won ever since. Along the way, NBA players like LeBron James have praised Krzyzewski's work melding a collection of stars into a cohesive team.

The coach sounds eager to get started again.

"I've loved it and I think the players have loved it, and I think people can see that," Krzyzewski said. "And you want to do it again. I think people think that because we have all these guys, you just roll out the ball and you're going to win. That's a very arrogant way of looking at it, and it's that arrogance that got us into the spot we were before and thinking that no one's good." □



Duke University basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski, center, holds a Team USA jersey, as he is flanked by school President Richard Broadhead, left, and Director of Athletics Kevin White at a news conference in Durham, N.C., Thursday, May 23 2013.

Associated Press



MAY 23 - 29



VIN DIESEL | PAUL WALKER

**FAST & FURIOUS 6**

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG-13

MON - FRI 6:30 | 9:30

SAT, SUN & HOL 3:40 | 6:30 | 9:30

MON - THURS 5:30 | 8:10

FRI 5:30 | 8:10 | 11:20

SAT 2:30 | 5:30 | 8:10 | 11:20

SUN & HOL 2:30 | 5:30 | 8:10

MON - THURS 4:10 | 7:00

FRI - SAT 4:10 | 7:00 | 10:25

SUN & HOL 4:10 | 7:00



LEONARDO DiCAPRIO | TOBEY MAGUIRE

**THE GREAT GATSBY**

PG-13

3D VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON - FRI 6:00 | 9:00

SAT, SUN & HOL 3:05 | 6:00 | 9:00

REGULAR VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON - THURS 8:00

FRI - SAT 8:00 | 11:00

SUN & HOL 8:00



AMANDA SEYFRIED | JASON SUDEIKIS

**epic**

PG

3D VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON - FRI 6:40 | 9:00

SAT, SUN & HOL 2:00 | 4:20 | 6:40 | 9:00

REGULAR VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON - FRI 5:40

SAT, SUN & HOL 3:20 | 5:40



CHRIS PINE | ZACHARY QUINTO

**STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS**

PG-13

3D VERSION WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON - THURS 4:00 | 6:35 | 9:10

FRI 4:00 | 6:35 | 9:25

SAT 3:45 | 6:35 | 9:25

SUN & HOL 3:45 | 6:35 | 9:25



ROBERT DOWNEY JR. | GWYNETH PALTROW

**IRON MAN 3**

PG-13

MON - THURS 4:00 | 6:25 | 9:10

FRI 4:00 | 6:25 | 9:10 | 11:30

SAT 3:30 | 6:25 | 9:10 | 11:30

SUN & HOL 3:30 | 6:25 | 9:10

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**"FAVI FUNDACION CU VISION"**

## Aiming autism ads at Hispanics and African-Americans

JANE L. LEVERE

© 2013 New York Times

Autism Speaks, the autism and science advocacy organization, this week is introducing a new public service advertising campaign aimed at Hispanic and African-American parents. The campaign, developed with the Advertising Council, which has worked with Autism Speaks since 2005, was created by the New York office of BBDO and LatinWorks of Austin, Texas, both part of the Omnicom Group. The campaign describes early signs of autism in detail and encourages parents to take immediate action if their child does not meet standard developmental milestones.

The new campaign is geared specifically at Hispanic and African-American parents because, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the current age of diagnosis among these groups, as well as among low-income families, is higher than that of the general public. According

to the CDC, although the average age now of diagnosis in the United States is 4 to 5 years, a reliable diagnosis can be made as early as 18 to 24 months. And if the disorder is treated from the ages of 3 to 5, from 20 to 50 percent of children with autism will be able to attend mainstream kindergarten, according to studies by The Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology and The Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders.

Autism is the fastest-growing serious developmental disorder in the United States. According to a study released last year by the CDC, in 2008, 1 in 88 children was diagnosed with autism by a doctor or other medical professional, a 78 percent increase over 2002. For boys, the ratio is 1 in 54. Dr. Geraldine Dawson, chief science officer of Autism Speaks, said the increase in autism diagnoses was partly because of a broadening of the definition of the disorder. She also said environmental

risk factors probably affected the increase. Autism Speaks, founded in 2005 by Bob Wright, former

with the new Ad Council campaigns, also created by BBDO. Messages of previous campaigns focused

have autism. Peggy Conlon, president and chief executive of the Ad Council, said previous advertising



An ad in the campaign showing parents observing a child with the early warning signs of autism, a developmental disorder. (Handout Photo via The New York times)

chairman of NBCUniversal, and his wife Suzanne, whose grandson has autism, took a different tack

on the numerical odds of children being found to have autism, some with celebrities whose children

had effectively increased awareness among the general public about the early signs of autism and encouraged parents to speak to their doctors about their children. The new campaign features "realistic situations parents will identify with. I believe they will help more minority parents speak to their doctors if they see the signs and get their children the intervention they need," she said. So far, autism ads have run in donated time and space worth more than \$350 million. Liz Feld, president of Autism Speaks, also said there were "cultural barriers to diagnosis and cultural barriers to access to care among minority communities. We wanted to break down these barriers." New print and outdoor advertising features photos that zoom in on the eyes and mouth of infants. One ad says, "You think something may be wrong. The answer is not staring you in the face. Avoiding eye contact is one early sign of autism. Learn the others today at autismspeaks.org/signs. Early diagnosis can make a lifetime of difference." □

### Study:

## Emergency rooms account for half of admissions

REED ABELSON

© 2013 New York Times

Emergency rooms account for about half of the nation's hospital admissions and accounted for virtually all of the rise in admissions between 2003 and 2009, according to a study released on Monday.

Although emergency rooms are widely considered expensive places for diagnostic care, physicians are increasingly relying on them to determine whether a patient needs to be hospitalized.

The study's findings raise important questions about how emergency rooms contribute to high health care costs in the United States and what their role will be in the future as the nation undergoes fundamental changes in health care delivery. One goal of the Obama administration's health care law was to reduce reliance on cost-

ly emergency room care. The report by the RAND Corp., a nonprofit research group, was done for a consortium of emergency medicine physician organizations. RAND, which says it was chosen for its independence, says the sponsors had no say in the report's findings.

Emergency rooms have long been a source of medical care beyond treating people with immediate life-threatening conditions, the report notes. "It is not just an emergency department, and it hasn't been for 20 years," said Dr. Arthur L. Kellermann, a senior RAND researcher and emergency physician who is one of the study's authors.

The emergency room serves as a place to get immediate care in the evenings and weekends, he said, and where patients can get "complex, time-

efficient diagnostic workups." The RAND researchers, who studied hospital admissions in the United States from 2003 to 2009, said increasing numbers of patients were being admitted through emergency rooms. "They are the entryway for the hospital for unscheduled admissions," Kellermann said.

Nearly all of the increase in hospital admissions during that period was because of a 17 percent increase in unscheduled admissions made from emergency rooms, according to the report. Over the same period, there was a 10 percent decline in admissions from doctors' offices and similar settings. Doctors are sending patients to the emergency room when they are not available to see a patient or when someone needs sophisticated tests to determine quickly whether they are seriously

ill. Patients frequently go to the emergency room because they feel they have no alternative, and the researchers also noted that emergency rooms served as a medical safety net for patients without health insurance. While some hospital executives may be pressing physicians to admit patients to fill beds, Kellermann predicted that changing the payment system so hospitals were no longer rewarded for the volume of tests and treatments they provide would change the dynamic. "I think you'll see a 180-degree turn in their attitude, he said.

The study did not reach a definitive conclusion about whether patients in managed care plans who came to the emergency room were less likely to be admitted than those who were not enrolled in such plans. □

# Review: Google music plan solid, serendipitous

RYAN NAKASHIMA

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) —

Google's new music service offers a lot of eye candy to go with the tunes. The song selection of around 18 million tracks is comparable to popular services such as Spotify and Rhapsody, and a myriad of playlists curated along different genres provides a big playground for music lovers. The All Access service represents Google's attempt to grab a bigger piece of the digital music market as more people stream songs over mobile phones. Such services are also meant to further wed smartphone users to Google's Android operating system, where the search leader makes money from advertising and transactions on its digital content store, Google Play. For a monthly fee, All Access lets you listen to as much music as you want over an Internet connection. You can also download songs onto mobile devices for smooth playback later when you don't have cellphone or Wi-Fi access. It's worth a try for the discounted monthly rate of \$8 if you sign up by the end of June. Those who sign up later will pay \$10 a month, the same amount charged by the main competitors, Spotify and Rhapsody. Either way, you get the first month free and can cancel at any time. All Access works on the free Google Play Music app for Android devices and over Web browsers on computers — but not on the iPhone. (Spotify and Rhapsody work on both Android and the iPhone).

Visually, the app that I tested on Google's Nexus 4 smartphone is engaging. Iterating on the list-heavy layouts of its competitors, Google Play Music jazzes up the interface by adding plenty of big artist photos along with little animations, including bouncing equalizer bars and screen-size cover art that moves slowly back and forth when a

song is playing.

Some of the touch features require a pixie-like dexterity, though. It's one downside to this solid entrant to the world of unlimited music streaming.

You can re-order songs that are in your queue on the fly — something not offered by either Spotify or Rhapsody. But this takes gripping a very thin digital handle to the left of a song title and sliding it up or down. Because it's much thinner than the thumb I'm using to grip it, I ended up playing songs that I only wanted to move, or deleting them from the queue by accident (which takes a swipe right or left).

The options icon on each song title (three dots stacked on top of each other) is also tiny and caused frequent mis-taps. This means a lot of accidentally playing songs and mistakenly erasing queues that I had spent time creating.

I wasn't that impressed by the service's recommendations, although perhaps it's because I haven't used it that much. It recommended artists "like Madonna" even though I don't really listen to the Material Girl. The top recommendations were the same ones I saw onstage during Google's official unveiling of All Access last week. Digging a little deeper revealed recommendations for other works by artists whose songs I already own, like Sara Bareilles or Maroon 5. But I could have looked that up on my own.

Where the service starts to get interesting is in its radio function. Like other Internet radio plans, it takes some traits of a particular song and finds others like it somehow. Doing this with Reggie Watts' comedic beat-box tune "(bleep) (bleep) Stack," I discovered the song fits within a kind of sub-genre of humorous rappers, after it played Flight of the Conchords' "Hiphopopotamus

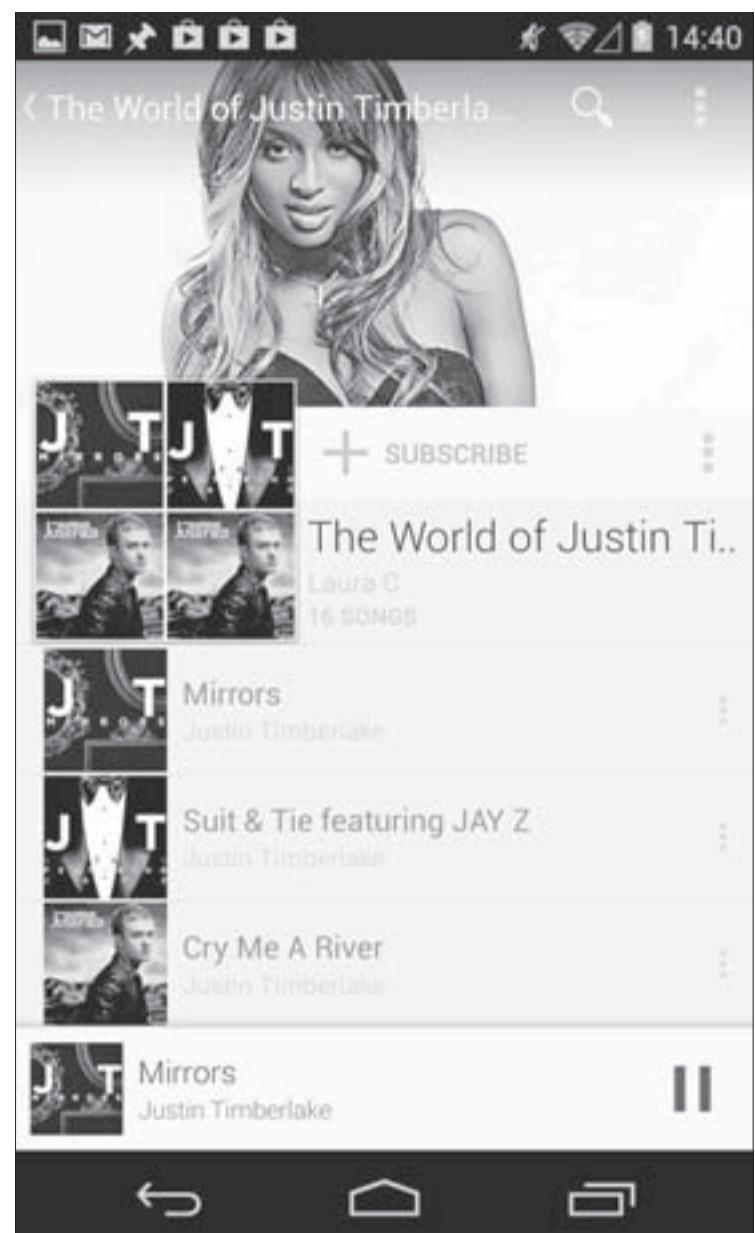
vs. Rhymenoceros," and MC Chris' "I Want Candy." I gave these songs a digital thumbs up, which marks them in a playlist so I can find them later.

Google Play Music attempts to do something that Samsung Electronics Co.'s Music Hub did before it. Music Hub, which launched last July on Samsung's Galaxy S III phone, blended four things: a music store, an online storage service, unlimited song streaming and an Internet radio player.

Google's app does all those things. In addition, because it comes as an update to the existing Google Play Music app, it preserved the music I took the trouble of uploading to my Google Music storage space prior to the revamp. When Google first launched its music store in November 2011, it merely sold songs or albums a la carte. But it offered users free online storage for up to 20,000 songs, including ones they had bought at other stores such as Apple Inc.'s iTunes.

Starting last December, Google's uploader software added the ability to scan your hard drive for songs and match them with songs Google already has on its servers. That way, you have to upload only the songs Google didn't recognize. With that, your personal library of owned songs still exists, but the sense of ownership has blurred.

With All Access, you still see your library of owned songs in a place called My Library on the Google Play Music app. A lot of that music is stored online, or in the cloud, and requires an Internet connection to listen to. But you can "pin" a song to download a copy for offline listening, something that Google Play Music and other cloud lockers had offered already. You can toggle the view in My Library to see everything you can access in the cloud, or just the stuff you



This image shows a screenshot of Google Inc.'s new music service. The new service offers a lot of eye candy to go with the tunes. The song selection of around 18 million tracks is comparable to popular services such as Spotify and Rhapsody, and a myriad of playlists curated along different genres provides a big playground for music lover.

Associated Press

can access on the device without a cellular or Wi-Fi connection. If you start running out of space, you basically "unpin" the song to free up the memory, even though your ownership still exists in the cloud.

All Access also allows you to "pin" songs you don't own. Copies will get downloaded for offline play. Or you can mark songs as favorites by adding them to My Library in the cloud. But because those favorites are stored in the same place as songs you actually own, your sense of ownership will suffer a hit.

You might not know which is which until the All Access songs disappear should you ever stop paying the monthly fee.

You can share songs from the app to the Google Plus social network, but there's no Facebook integration as is the case with Spotify and Rhapsody. It also doesn't integrate with Twitter's new (hash)music service, the way Rdio and Spotify do quite well.

Google's new music service covers the fundamentals of unlimited on-demand music with Google-like solid execution. □

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# Stocks edge lower as investors reassess Fed fears

**STEVE ROTHWELL**  
**AP Markets Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Investors recovered their poise after a shaky start to trading on Wall Street that sent stocks sharply lower.

U.S. markets plummeted immediately after the opening bell Thursday following a global slump prompted in part by an unexpectedly weak report on manufacturing in China. Concern that the Federal Reserve might ease back on its economic stimulus program sooner than expected had also riled investors. The dip gave investors who had missed this year's rally in stocks an opportunity to get into the market, and by midday stocks had recouped most of their early losses. The market even climbed into positive territory by midday, before ending the day marginally lower.

"Most institutions, most hedge funds and most individuals have watched the market go up without them, so the dips are being bought," said Jim Russell, regional investment director at U.S. Bank. "There's a very strong case for U.S. stocks."

The Dow Jones industrial average ended the day just 12.67 points lower, or 0.1 percent, at 15,294.50, after falling as much as 127 points during the first hour of trading.

For the most part, the U.S. stock market has been one-way traffic for investors this year, with steady gains being punctuated by infrequent declines. Optimism has been stoked by a pickup in hiring at U.S. employers, a recovery in the housing market and record profits at U.S. corporations. All that has helped push the Dow up 16.7 percent this year. The Standard & Poor's 500 index is up 15.7 percent since the start of 2013.

On Thursday though, trading was volatile.

A sell-off in global markets came after minutes from the latest Fed meeting, released Wednesday afternoon, indicated that several policymakers are leaning toward slowing the central bank's bond-buying program as early as June, sooner than many investors anticipated, if the economy continues to recover. The central bank is spending \$85 billion a

month buying bonds. That program has been keeping interest rates low in an effort to encourage borrowing, spending and investing. It's also meant to

2 economy, unexpectedly shrank this month. HSBC Corp. said the preliminary version of its monthly purchasing managers index had dropped to a seven-

it's slowing down. Stocks fell sharply in Asia Thursday. Japan's Nikkei index dropped 7.3 percent after news was released about the slowdown in



**ChannelAdvisor CEO, Chairman and co-founder Scot Wingo, center, rings a bell as his stock begins trading during its IPO, on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Thursday, May 23, 2013. ChannelAdvisor, from Research Triangle Park, N.C., is a provider of cloud-based e-commerce**

**(AP Photo/Richard Drew)**

encourage investors to buy risky assets like stocks. Investors were also unsettled by a report Thursday that showed manufacturing in China, the world's No.

month low. China's booming economy has been a major driver of global growth in recent years and investors worry when they see signs that

Chinese manufacturing. The declines extended to Europe, where Germany's DAX index, which has been at a record high, slid 2.1 percent. □

## J&J expects 10-plus new drug applications by 2017

**LINDA A. JOHNSON**  
**AP Business Writer**

**NEW BRUNSWICK, New Jersey (AP)** — Johnson & Johnson is developing what could eventually be game-changing treatments for depression and pain, and it's aiming to apply for approval of more than 10 new medicines by 2017, executives said Thursday during a review of the health care giant's medicine business.

The depression drug, a chemical cousin of the powerful anesthetic ketamine, appears to bring relief from crippling depression in just a day — rather than the four to eight weeks needed for existing pills, which don't work for many patients.

The pain treatment, while in earlier stages of testing, is not addictive and could replace widely used — and

abused — opioid painkillers such as Oxycontin that cause harsh side effects and many fatal overdoses. J&J, which makes everything from baby shampoo and Tylenol to biologic drugs and medical devices, has seen its revenue rebound after a rare decline in 2009, thanks to a surge of 11 new medicines launched since then. Unlike most drugmakers, J&J is well past its worst stretch of its big prescription drugs losing patent protection and seeing their sales slashed by cheaper generic competition.

And now the company says it plans by 2017 to apply for approval of 11 new medicines in the U.S. and Europe, plus a polio vaccine for other parts of the world and 25 variations of existing drugs.

"Our focus is now on en-

hancing our pipeline to deliver the next wave of growth," Joaquin Duato, one of two chairman of J&J's worldwide prescription drug business, told analysts and journalists at the daylong meeting.

Like its rivals, the company says it is focusing on conditions that lack adequate treatments, as well as expanding sales in emerging markets such as China and India. J&J's 11 experimental drugs, now in mid- or late-stage patient testing, include a potential hepatitis C treatment being reviewed by regulators, a version of its Invega Sustenna schizophrenia shot designed to last three months, drugs for three types of cancer and new vaccines for flu and rabies. Another of the 11 drugs is esketamine, which is chemically related to ketamine,

an anesthetic sometimes abused at raves for the high and hallucinations it can produce.

J&J this year started mid-stage patient testing of an inhaled, low-dose version of esketamine for patients not helped by other anti-depressants. Assuming it's approved, J&J is planning to have it administered in doctor's offices and clinics, but not distributed through pharmacies — to limit the potential for abuse, said Dr. Husseini Manji, head of neuroscience research.

He said J&J is also testing variations including a pill version and using esketamine to treat bipolar disorder, adding that doctors and government mental health experts have high hopes for what could be "the biggest breakthrough in psychiatry in 40 years." That's needed because

depression is one of the top causes of disability worldwide and leads to more than 38,000 suicides a year — just in the U.S. Current treatments only resolve depression in about a third of patients. The promising pain drug, fulranumab, is currently being tested in patients with osteoarthritis, the joint pains common in older folks from years of wear and tear, and in patients with pain from nerve damage caused by diabetes. It also could be tested for back or other pain types. Manji said it could be a big advance over today's options. Those are mainly anti-inflammatory pain relievers such as naproxen that aren't always effective and addictive narcotic painkillers that are responsible for pill mills, crime rings and thousands of overdoses. □

## McDonald's can't shake criticism about nutrition

CANDICE CHOI  
AP Food Industry Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — McDonald's once again faced criticism that it's a purveyor of junk food that markets to children at its annual shareholder meeting Thursday. The world's biggest hamburger chain has been looking to keep up with changing tastes as people increasingly opt for foods they feel are fresh or healthy. Customers can now order egg whites in its breakfast sandwiches, for example. McDonald's



also recently introduced chicken wraps to go after people in their 20s and 30s looking for better-for-you options.

But on Thursday, McDonald's was taken to task by speakers associated with an advocacy group about its menu and advertising toward kids.

As with other shareholder meetings where critics are given the rare chance to face executives, McDonald's Corp. allotted about a half-hour for attendees to ask CEO Don Thompson questions.

Among those was a 9-year-old girl who asked Thompson to stop "tricking kids into eating your food." The girl's mother echoed the request later on, saying McDonald's undermines parents by marketing to children.

Another speaker asked that McDonald's remove its locations from hospitals, while others asked it to stop targeting communities of color by signing stars such as Olympic gymnast Gabby Douglas and the NBA's LeBron James.

Three of the individuals were members of Corporate Accountability, which has been critical of the company's marketing practices. Others were

health professionals, parents or writers linked to the group.

Thompson stood by the company's menu, saying McDonald's doesn't sell "junk food," pointing out items such as the yogurt parfait and side salad and noting that the company has been adding more fruits and vegetables. Still, he said at one point, "I do agree we have some issues, and we can be part of the solution."

Other fast-food chains such as Burger King, Wendy's and Taco Bell aren't exactly paragons of healthy eating, of course. And plenty of mom-and-pop restaurants sell food with just as many calories and fat as a Big Mac or Quarter Pounder. But with more than 14,000 U.S. locations, McDonald's is an easy target because of its size, and for many it has become a symbol of processed foods.

The criticism is far from new, but its persistence illustrates the uphill battle McDonald's faces in trying to evolve its image and stay relevant. After years of outperforming its rivals, the company has been struggling to increase sales more recently. During the first quarter, global sales at restaurants open at least a year fell 1 percent. That marked the first quarterly decline in a decade.

Despite Thompson's claims that the company doesn't target children in schools, Corporate Accountability noted that McDonald's has moved much of its marketing online where it's harder for parents to monitor what kids see. Nick Guroff, a spokesman for the group, also said that commercials featuring Gabby Douglas and LeBron James are directed at kids.

Corporate Accountability in recent years had pressured McDonald's to stop using Ronald McDonald to market to children. Thompson on Thursday noted that the company isn't using Ronald "the way it used to" but nevertheless stood by the mascot. □

## US new home sales up 2.3 percent in April

MARTIN CRUTSINGER  
AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. sales of new homes rose in April and nearly matched the fastest pace in five years, driving the median price to a record high. The gains suggest the housing recovery is strengthening. New-home sales increased 2.3 percent in April from March to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 454,000, the Commerce Department said Thursday. That's only slightly below January's pace of 458,000, which was the fastest since

July 2008. Steady job creation and near-record-low mortgage rates are spurring more Americans to buy homes. Sales are still below the 700,000 pace consistent with healthy markets, but they have risen 29 percent over the past year. The median sales price jumped 8.3 percent in April from March to \$271,600. That's highest on records going back to 1993. The median sales price is not adjusted for inflation.

Prices are rising quickly because more people are bidding on a limited num-

ber of homes. "April's new home sales are further evidence of a rebounding national housing market," said John Tashjian, an executive with Centurian Real Estate Partners in New York City. "Over the past 18 months we have seen housing pull itself off the mat and spring back to life."

Sales of new homes increased 10.8 percent in the West in April and 3 percent in the South. They fell 16.7 percent in the Northeast and 4.8 percent in the Midwest. □

## Gap's 1st-quarter profits rises 43 percent

A. D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — After years of struggling, Gap is back in style.

Gap Inc., which owns the Gap, Old Navy and Banana Republic clothing chains, reported on Thursday a 43 percent increase in its fiscal first-quarter net income, as the company continues to reap benefits from the turnaround plan that it began early last year. The company, based in San Francisco, also reiterated its full-year earnings outlook. The latest results are welcome news for customers and investors who've watched Gap over the years flounder from an industry darling to a has-been. Gap's performance shows that efforts by the chain to attract customers with brightly colored fashions and lively ads are helping to boost sales continue to take hold.

"We are pleased with our strong start to the year, especially first-quarter sales," said Glenn Murphy, chairman and CEO of Gap in a statement. "We remain focused on continuing to deliver shareholder value." Gap said it earned \$333 million, or 71 cents per share, for the three-month period ended May 4. That compares with \$233 million or 47 cents per share, in the year-ago period. Revenue rose 6.9 percent to \$3.73 billion. Analysts had expected 69 cents per share on revenue of \$3.73 billion.

Revenue at stores opened at least a year — an industry measurement of a retailer's health — rose 2 percent for the entire chain. The global businesses at both Gap and Old Navy each posted an increase of 3 percent, while Banana Republic's global division was unchanged from a year ago.

It's been a long slog uphill for Gap. After turning basics like T-shirts and khakis into must-have fashions in

the chain still struggled to solve its biggest problem: shoppers weren't buying its clothes unless they were deeply discounted.

But Gap is striking the right note with shoppers these days. The company has made several changes, including a management overhaul, new ads and partnerships with other designers. The company also hired new talent: The Banana Republic division brought in fashion designer



**A shopper walks down the steps at a Gap store in Los Angeles. The Gap Inc. reported quarterly financial results after the market closes on Thursday, May 23, 2013.**

(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

the 1990s, Gap fell out of favor with customers after the turn of the century. In particular, poor fit, boring fashions and drab colors hurt the company's flagship brand for most of the past decade.

After Murphy took the top job in 2007, the chain began closing and shrinking stores and cutting inventory to boost its profits. But

Narciso Rodriguez, who began serving as an adviser to the brand starting with the fall 2013 collection.

And like many companies, Gap, which operates a total of 1,385 stores globally, also has been looking overseas for growth. In China, Gap opened two additional stores in the first quarter for a total of 49 stores in that country. □

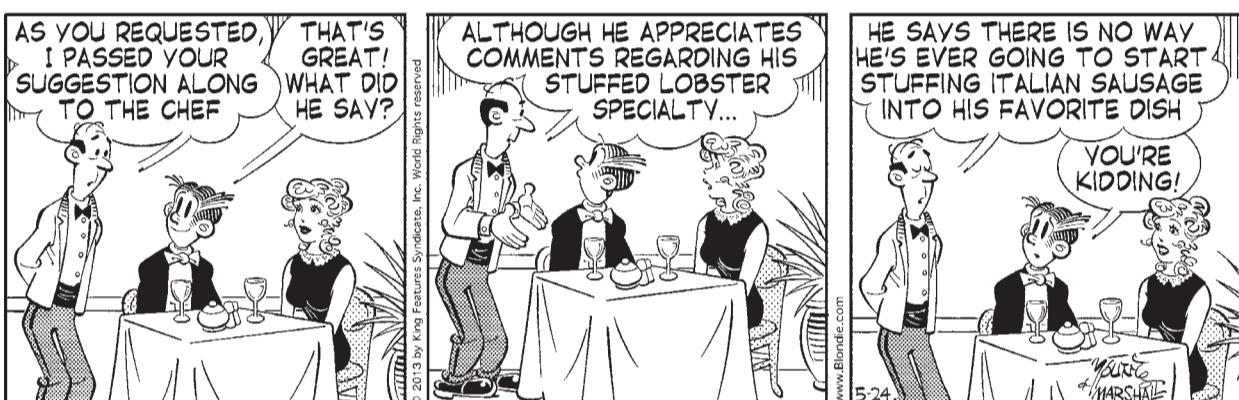
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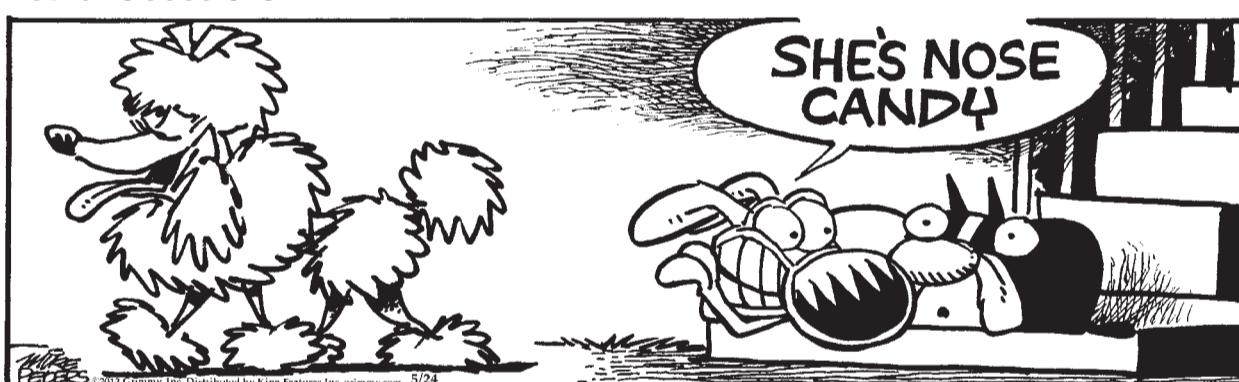
6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	7	3	1	9					
2			6	4	5				
			9						
4	2								
5						7	3		8
		7							
3	2	9							7
9	3	8	4						

Difficulty Level ★★★★

5/24

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

1	3	4	8	2	5	7	9	6				
8	5	9	6	7	4	2	1	3				
2	6	7	3	1	9	5	8	4				
4	9	8	7	3	1	6	5	2				
3	7	5	9	6	2	1	4	8				
6	2	1	5	4	8	9	3	7				
7	4	3	1	5	6	8	2	9				
9	1	6	2	8	3	4	7	5				
5	8	2	4	9	7	3	6	1				

Yesterday's puzzle answer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16		
17				18						19		
20			21							22		
										23	24	25
26	27					28				29	30	
31				32	33					34		35
36			37							38		
39			40							41		
42	43					44				45		46
47	48	49				50				51	52	53
54				55	56					57		
58			59			60						
61			62			63						

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/24/13

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

B	I	T	I	R	A	T	E	C	A	F	E
A	R	I	D	M	O	C	H	A	O	V	E
T	O	N	I	P	U	M	A	S	R	I	N
N	E	G	L	I	G	E	N	T	O	D	S
R	O	S	H	W	I	N	W	I	N	O	S
S	P	E	E	C	P	L	A	C	A	D	S
C	L	A	S	H	F	A	I	R	O	U	T
R	U	S	S	L	A	C	E	D	S	A	N
A	T	E	A	I	R	E	D	F	A	R	C
M	O	L	A	S	S	E	M	R	S	E	D
F	A	T	E	W	D	E	B	D	E	E	N
S	T	O	R	E	N	A	I	V	E	N	A
B	A	S	H	R	E	E	D	D	E	Y	Y

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5/24/13

ACROSS

- 1 Understands
- 5 Personnel
- 10 Mark remaining after surgery
- 14 All \_\_; everywhere
- 15 Common greeting
- 16 \_\_ a question; ask
- 17 Buzzing insects
- 18 Ford or Bush
- 20 Lodge
- 21 Evil actions
- 22 Alter to fit
- 23 Hollers
- 25 Supped
- 26 Lament
- 28 Unwilling
- 31 \_\_ oneself; put forth energy
- 32 Cartoon cat
- 34 \_\_ a ball; enjoyed oneself
- 36 Gorillas and chimpanzees
- 37 Out of this \_\_; extraordinary
- 38 Long story
- 39 Actor Aykroyd
- 40 Brother of Prince William
- 41 \_\_ 6; traveler's stop
- 42 Ruthless ruler
- 44 Guard
- 45 Over the hill
- 46 \_\_ out; get rid of gradually
- 47 Kareem \_\_-Jabbar
- 50 Barking marine mammal
- 51 Mai tai ingredient
- 54 Repeated
- 57 Get exhausted
- 58 Bakery dessert
- 59 Pimiento-stuffed tidbit
- 60 School subj.
- 61 Colors
- 62 Sent telegrams
- 63 Elderly
- 64 Drop of sweat
- 65 Person living abroad
- 66 Actress Sheedy
- 67 Breaking into tiny pieces
- 68 Raring to go
- 69 Worth, Texas
- 70 Goof
- 71 Asian desert
- 72 Magician's stick
- 73 Male children
- 74 Water barrier
- 75 Lunch or dinner
- 76 Mailmen's beats
- 77 Protected from the sun
- 78 Blend together
- 79 Aisle
- 80 Muhammad
- 81 Brewed drink

DOWN

- 1 Asian desert
- 2 Level; smooth
- 3 Very small
- 4 Yrbk. section
- 5 Earsplitting
- 6 Adolescents
- 7 Europe's highest range
- 8 Respiratory bug
- 9 Watch chain
- 10 Web builder
- 11 \_\_-Cola
- 12 Urgent letters
- 13 Payment to a landlady
- 14 Glove material
- 15 Narrow cut
- 16 Corncobs
- 17 Zealous
- 18 Drop of sweat
- 19 Person living abroad
- 20 Actress Sheedy
- 21 Breaking into tiny pieces
- 22 Raring to go
- 23 Worth, Texas
- 24 Goof
- 25 Tyne or Tim
- 26 Part of the foot
- 27 Male children
- 28 Water barrier
- 29 Lunch or dinner
- 30 Mailmen's beats
- 31 Protected from the sun
- 32 Blend together
- 33 Aisle
- 34 Muhammad
- 35 Brewed drink

## 100 years of New Hampshire primaries

Eric Moskowitz  
GLOBE STAFF

© 2013 The New York Times

**CONCORD, N.H.** -- The cake for the 100th birthday was big and green and covered by a frosting map of the Granite State. The relics spread around the room seemed to have been conjured up by someone trying to evoke a flinty, old-time version of New Hampshire: a straw hat with a black band; plain, wire-rimmed spectacles; a Grange certificate; and a roll-top desk, sturdy and devoid of unnecessary scrollwork.

They were artifacts from the life of Stephen A. Bullock, the lawmaker who filed the bill 100 years ago Tuesday establishing the state's presidential primary. Bullock set in motion a phenomenon that would put New Hampshire on the political map and define it for residents and outsiders, to candidates vying for attention, political scribes writing odes to the primary's purity, and to the larger, flashier, more centrally located states coveting what New Hampshire has.

And here is what New Hampshire has: "The best political event -- EVAH! -- in the history of our country and on the planet," said Kathy Sullivan, a Democratic National Committee member and one of many friends of the primary who gathered for cake, fruit punch, and nearly 90 minutes of birthday speeches at the State House in Concord Tuesday in the Executive Council Chamber.

It was down the hall a century ago that Bullock -- a poultry farmer, selectman, tax collector, health officer, and fire warden from the town of Richmond, as well as a lawmaker -- submitted a hand-written bill drafted at that roll-top desk. The

bill's simple, remarkable premise? Give voters a say in selecting presidential nominees, freeing it from smoke-filled backrooms. Just as remarkably, the Republican House and Democratic Senate approved his bill and the governor signed it all on that same day, foreshadowing the primary's ability to bring together both parties to keep New Hampshire first.

"Regardless of party -- as John McCain says, 'Republican, Democrat, vegetarian, libertarian, egalitarian' -- we all love this process that lets the people decide, so may that bipartisanship on this issue continue for the next hundred years, and our primary will stay first and stay as important as it is for democracy," said Steve Duprey, the state's Republican National Committeeman.

Bullock, who as a boy had heard Lincoln speak, might not recognize his creation today. He proposed allowing voters to directly select presidential delegates, not candidates. New Hampshire at that moment was following closely on the heels of similar action in Minnesota and Indiana, said Secretary of State William M. Gardner, the primary's chief historian and defender. But Minnesota switched to a caucus, and Indiana shifted its primary to late spring, meaning New Hampshire came first when the 1916 presidential cycle arrived.

Not until 1952 did the state put names of the candidates on the ballot, a year in which the New Hampshire primary asserted its now-celebrated ability to challenge conventional wisdom and put candidates through their paces and in which the new medium of television helped

tell that story to the nation, Gardner said.

That year, Estes Kefauver's Democratic win helped discourage President Harry Truman from seeking a second full term, while General Dwight D. Eisenhower's victory over Senator Robert A. Taft shifted the Republican landscape.

Bullock's obituary in the Globe did not mention the primary, and Gardner did not unearth his role until the late 1990s.

"I think he would be amazed, I really do, but pleased," Bullock's granddaughter, Edith Atkins, said in a taped interview played Tuesday. Atkins, raised by her grandparents in their Richmond farmhouse, recalled riding around in Bullock's 1916 Buick, watching him come in from the fields to read the paper, and seeing him "go down cellar" to bring up apples for dessert in winter, after his customary pipe, but nary a word of the primary.

Atkins died 10 years ago. Her niece, Sybil Dupuis, 8 when Great-grandfather Bullock died, presented his artifacts to the state and spoke briefly, amid a long list of celebrants attesting to the qualities besides mere position that make New Hampshire unique.

This is a state so steeped in elections -- one that picks a governor every two years, and that packs its Legislature with 424 part-time volunteers -- that regular people are accustomed to asking candidates hard questions and routinely talk politics in pubs and schoolyards. □

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# Cockroaches quickly lose sweet tooth to survive

MALCOLM RITTER

AP Science Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — People have been getting rid of cockroaches for decades by setting out bait mixed with poison. But in the late 1980s, in an apartment test kitchen in Florida, something went very wrong. A killer product stopped working. Cockroach populations there kept rising. Mystified researchers tested and discarded theory after theory until they finally hit on the explanation: In a remarkably rapid display of evolution at work, many of the cockroaches had lost their sweet tooth, rejecting the corn syrup meant to attract them.

In as little as five years, the sugar-rejecting trait had become so widespread that the bait had been rendered useless.

"Cockroaches are highly adaptive, and they're doing pretty well in the arms race with us," said North Carolina State University entomologist Jules Silverman, discoverer of the glucose aversion in that Florida kitchen during a bait test.

The findings illustrate the evolutionary prowess that has helped make cockroaches so hard to stamp out that it is jokingly suggested they could survive nuclear war.

In a study published Thursday in the journal *Science*, Silverman and other researchers explain the workings of the genetic mutation that gave some roaches a competitive advantage that enabled them to survive and multiply.

The key is certain neurons that signal the brain about



This image made from video provided by Ayako Wada-Katsumata shows glucose-averse German cockroaches avoiding a dab of jelly, which contains glucose, and favoring the peanut butter. For 30 years, people have been getting rid of cockroaches by setting out sweet-tasting bait mixed with poison. But in the early 1990s, a formerly effective product stopped working. Some cockroaches had lost their sweet tooth, rejecting the corn syrup meant to attract them. Later studies showed they were specifically turned off by the sugar glucose in the syrup. Scientists reported Thursday, May 23, 2013 that the key is an altered behavior of certain nerves that signal the brain about foods.

Associated Press



This undated image made available by Ayako Wada-Katsumata and Andrew Ernst shows the head of a male German cockroach, showing the four major external chemosensory paired appendages pointed towards a flavored test substance dyed blue by researchers.

Associated Press

foods.

In normal cockroaches, glucose excites neurons that tell the brain "Sweet!" In the mutant insects, glucose activates neurons that say "Sweet!" and ones that say "Yuck!" The "Yuck!" neurons dampen the signal from the others, so the brain gets the message the taste is awful. This unusual nerve activity appeared in glucose-hating cockroaches collected from Puerto Rico as well as descendants of the Florida insects.

The research focused on the German cockroach, a small kind that can hitch a ride into your home in a grocery bag, not that big lunk known as the American cockroach. Such finicky eating habits have also been seen in these smaller roaches in South-

ern California, Cincinnati, Indiana, South Korea and Russia. Scientists are now looking to see if other kinds of cockroaches show aversion to glucose.

The new work is nifty science. But does it explain why you can't get rid of the little buggers in your kitchen?

Probably not, said Coby Schal, another study author at North Carolina State.

Tests show that the glucose-hating cockroaches are happy to eat most types of bait these days, suggesting that manufacturers have removed the glucose or masked it, he said. (Bait ingredients are a trade secret.) What's more, the researchers found glucose-hating cockroaches in only seven of 19 populations they sampled from various locations.

Frankly, if the bait you put out isn't working, it's probably because you're using it incorrectly, suggested Schal, who said he consults to the pesticide industry free of charge.

Still, he said, the new work has potential to help many consumers. By studying how cockroaches evolve to evade our poisons, scientists may find clues to designing bait that the pests cannot resist.

It's not clear when the Florida cockroaches first encountered bait with glucose or how quickly they ditched their taste for the sugar, he said. But he said it's reasonable to estimate that it took maybe only five years for that glucose aversion to spread to so many cockroaches that the bait was no longer effective. That's about 25 generations of German cockroaches, which can reproduce about one to three months after they're born, Schal said.

The glucose aversion may have arisen in an individual cockroach in response to bait. Or it may have already been present in just a few individuals when the arrival of the bait suddenly gave them an advantage for surviving and reproducing. Their offspring would inherit the trait and increasingly replace other cockroaches.

Michael Scharf, an entomologist at Purdue University who studies urban pests but wasn't involved in the new work, noted that since the 1950s, cockroaches have shown they can also evolve resistance to insecticides. He agreed the latest results should help scientists develop better products to control roaches. □

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In this Thursday, Sept. 6, 2012 file photo, Mary J. Blige performs during the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, N.C. Blige and her husband have been hit with a \$3.4 million tax lien by the IRS. Associated Press

## Mary J. Blige faces federal tax lien

**HACKENSACK, New Jersey (AP)** — Mary J. Blige and her husband have been hit with a \$3.4 million tax lien in New Jersey.

Court documents show the Internal Revenue Service filed a notice of a lien on the nine-time Grammy Award winner Feb. 7. That was two days before the Queen of Hip-Hop Soul was honored at a pre-Grammy party in Los Angeles.

Blige and husband Mar-

tin Isaacs have a home in Cresskill, New Jersey, north of New York City.

Court documents show as of the date of the IRS notice Blige owed more than \$574,000 for the 2009 tax year, more than \$2.2 million for 2010 and more than \$647,000 for 2011.

A Blige representative said Thursday she's working "with her new team to resolve all these issues as quickly as possible." □

## Singer Nick Carter to release memoir Sept. 24

**MESFIN FEKADU**  
AP Music Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Nick Carter isn't only writing songs — he's written a book. The Backstreet Boys singer will release a memoir, "Facing the Music and Living to Talk About It," on Sept. 24 via Bird Street Books. The 33-year-old is the first of the group to release a book. The autobiography and self-help book will include stories about Carter's teenage years in the multiplatinum Backstreet Boys, his struggles with substance and alcohol abuse and the hardships of his family. His younger siblings include Aaron and Leslie Carter.



This book cover image released by Bird Street Books shows "Facing the Music and Living to Talk About It," by Nick Carter.

Associated Press

Leslie, who battled with substance abuse, died last year. Carter is engaged to Lauren Kitt. The Backstreet Boys will release their eighth album, "In a World Like This," on July 30. □

## Jerry Lewis repeats his distaste for female comics

**JAKE COYLE**

**AP Entertainment Writer**

**CANNES, France (AP)** — Ladies? Don't make him laugh.

Asked who his favorite female comics were Thursday at a Cannes Film Festival press conference, Jerry Lewis listed Cary Grant and Burt Reynolds. He then added: "I don't have any." In 1998, Lewis famously said that watching women do comedy "sets me back a bit" and that he has trouble with the notion of would-be mothers as comedians. Asked Thursday if he had changed his mind at all because of performers like Melissa McCarthy and Sarah Silverman, the 87-year-old Lewis said of women performing broad comedy: "I can't see women doing that. It bothers me." "I cannot sit and watch a lady diminish her qualities to the lowest common de-



Comedian Jerry Lewis directs photographers during a photo call for the film "Max Rose" at the 66th international film festival, in Cannes, southern France, Thursday, May 23, 2013.

Associated Press

nominator," he said. "I just can't do that."

Lewis was in Cannes for the premiere of "Max Rose," a drama directed by Daniel Noah in which Lewis stars as an aging jazz musician. In her 2011 memoir, "Bossypants," Tina Fey alluded to Lewis' attitudes about fe-

male comedians: "When-ever someone says to me, 'Jerry Lewis says women aren't funny,' or 'Christopher Hitchens says women aren't funny,' ... Do you have anything to say to that?"

"Yes," writes Fey. "We don't f----- care if you like it." □

## Coen, Guirgis on tap at Atlantic Theater Company



This May 19, 2013 file photo shows film director and playwright Ethan Coen during a photo call for the film "Inside Llewyn Davis" at the 66th international film festival, in Cannes, southern France.

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The world premiere of Ethan Coen's first full-length stage play is slated for this summer.

The Atlantic Theater Company unveiled its slate of

Williams.

Coen, half of the prolific filmmaking Coen brothers, offers his "Women or Nothing,"

about two women desperate to have a child. It will be directed by David Cromer and begin performances Aug. 28.

The Atlantic also produced Coen's "Happy Hour," a collection of three short dark comedies. He also wrote one-third of "Relatively Speaking,"

three one-acts on Broadway in 2011 that also included works by Woody Allen and Elaine May.

The revival of the Bertolt Brecht-Kurt Weill masterpiece "The Threepenny Opera" will be directed by Martha Clarke,

an innovative choreographer and director whose best-known original work is "The Garden of Earthly Delights." It will be produced next spring. □

## Newly found Pearl S. Buck book is to be published

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — A newly discovered novel by the late Nobel Prize-winning author Pearl S. Buck is to be released this year. New York-based Open Road Integrated Media says Buck wrote the novel, titled "The Eternal Wonder," shortly before she died in 1973. The publisher says someone found the manuscript in storage in January. It will be published Oct. 22 in paperback and digital formats. □

The publisher announced the decision Wednesday, describing the book as the coming-of-age story of a gifted young man whose search for meaning leads him to New York, England, Paris and Korea. Buck's novel "The Good Earth" won the Pulitzer Prize in 1932 and helped earn her the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1938. She raised seven adopted children and wrote many later works at her farm outside Philadelphia. □

## Brown hounded for calling Manila 'gates of hell'



In this Monday, May 13, 2013 photo, author Dan Brown poses for a portrait in New York. His new book, "Inferno," published by Doubleday releases on May 14, 2013.

Associated Press

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** — Dan Brown's description of Manila as "the gates of hell" in the American novelist's latest book has not gone down well with officials in the Philippine capital.

The book "Inferno," which is being sold in the Philippines, includes a character who is visiting the city and taken aback by poverty, crime and the sex trade. The chairman of metropolitan Manila, Francis Tolentino, wrote an open let-

ter to Brown on Thursday, saying that while "Inferno" is fiction, "we are greatly disappointed by your inaccurate portrayal of our beloved metropolis."

Tolentino objects to the "gates of hell" description, and to Manila being defined by what he calls terrible descriptions of poverty and pollution.

He says the novel fails to acknowledge Filipinos' good character and compassion. □

## Robert Taylor: arresting as TV lawman 'Longmire'



This undated publicity image released by A&E shows Robert Taylor in the series "Longmire," returning for season 2 Monday, May 27 at 10p.m. on A&E.

Associated Press

### FRAZIER MOORE

AP Television Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — You may not recognize Robert Taylor as anyone other than the title character he plays on the crime drama "Longmire." But he's no newcomer.

"I've been working pretty solidly for a long time," says Taylor, with a wry throwaway: "Not that anyone would notice, you know what I mean?"

But not that he appears to be complaining.

"It's been my goal to work as much as possible, and be as unknown as possible," he insists.

Unknown-ness for the 52-year-old actor may be threatened as "Longmire" begins its second season Monday at 10 p.m. EDT on A&E, where he stars alongside Katee Sackhoff ("Battlestar Galactica") and Lou Diamond Phillips.

Taylor impressed viewers last summer as Sheriff Walt Longmire, who polices the Big Sky sprawl of Absaroka County, Wyo., with a devotion that's steadfast, laconic and sadder-but-wiser (he mourns the recent death of his wife). He is rangy and grizzled at an age where he can still whip most opponents in a fight, but knows to spare himself that kind of

strain whenever he can.

"With young people, it's how brassy and flashy can you be," says Taylor, explaining his portrayal. "But you get a bit older, it's about how restrained can you be. You have to feel it all, think it all, but you don't have to play it — it's just gotta be there, and if the story's good and the script's good, people will see it."

They'll see it on "Longmire." Then again, they may not know it's acting.

The portrayal of Sheriff Longmire yields an enormously appealing and relatable character, while Taylor disappears into the role.

It's a role he clearly identifies with. He arrives for an interview at a fussy Manhattan restaurant clad in a denim shirt, jeans and boots. Very Longmire. And while his broad shoulders don't bear the weight of Longmire's world, his voice isn't noticeably different,

issuing from somewhere deep as it gathers a rich nasal timbre and a Western twang — which is surprising, since Taylor is Australian. (Where's his Aussie accent? "It comes and goes, mate," he replies, for a moment channeling Crocodile Dundee.)

"I've always loved the (American) West," he goes on. "I grew up in wide-open spaces, but they didn't have the romantic history of the West. It was more just misery."

He was born in Melbourne, but when his parents split up, he went to live with his aunt and uncle in a Western Australian mining town. As a teen he worked in the mines. Then he took off, with the idea of somehow mirroring the artists and adventurers from his mother's Bohemian side of the family, most of whom he only knew from mesmerizing tales.

"The desire was there, eating away, to do something different," he recalls. "But I had no clue how."

Among his many odd jobs as he sought an answer was working on an oil rig, where he took a fall.

"I just busted a bunch of bones," he says with a laugh. "It's all right. I was young."

But by then he was ready for something with a future. He got wind of the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, which now counts among its alumni Frances O'Connor and Hugh Jackman. With no idea how, he prepared two auditions and got in. □

## Somebody Did Something



GAIL COLLINS

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Whenever the world of Washington seems hopeless, someone will point out that the Senate Judiciary Committee did a good job on immigration reform. That's it? Yeah, pretty much.

Immigration reform has been the 2013 bipartisan bright spot in the Senate, unless you were really moved by the day they voted to debate gun control before killing all the gun control plans. The committee members cheerfully plowed through 300-odd proposed amendments, while taking turns telling which country their great-grandfather came from. There was, of course, a lot of disagreement, although almost everybody seemed to enjoy slapping down ideas offered by Sen. Jeff Sessions of Alabama.

Mainstream Republicans have been super-energized to do immigration reform ever since the Hispanic vote went against them in the last election. Democracy does work. If somebody came up with a dramatic poll showing that all the people with diabetes, asthma and chronic back problems had voted against Mitt Romney, there would no longer be a problem getting funding for health care reform.

High points in the committee's long slog toward passage included a proposal from tea party icon Mike Lee of Utah to exempt employers of "cooks, waiters, butlers, housekeepers, governesses, maids, valets, baby sitters, janitors, laundresses, furnacemen, caretakers, handymen, gardeners, footmen, grooms and chauffeurs of automobiles for family use" from checking to make sure their help had the proper legal status. It didn't go anywhere, but if you happen to run into Lee, feel free to say: "The butler did it."

The most painful low point in the committee's deliberations came at the end, when the Democrats gave up on an amendment allowing same-sex spouses the same right as heterosexuals to apply for permanent resident status for their partners. It's not every day when you hear a senator announce that he had decided to support a move that involved "rank discrimination." But the Republicans who were needed to get an immigration bill through the Senate had made it supremely

clear that if any hint of gay marriage entered the legislation, they were going to take their toys and go home.

Decide for yourself how you feel about this one, people. Stand up for equality or finally get a major bill through the Senate? Defend equality or cave in and hope that the Supreme Court bails you out when it rules on the Defense of Marriage Act next month?

It is, at minimum, a useful reminder of what lawmaking looked like back in the days when the two parties made deals and we complained that nobody was sticking to their principles. Back to the can-do days when senators routinely said things like Sen. Orrin Hatch's explanation of his thinking on immigration: "I'm going to vote this bill out of committee because I've committed to do that."

The bill, which would give millions of undocumented residents a path toward eventual citizenship, goes to the full Senate, where it actually looks as though it's going to pass. Any further progress would require cooperation from the House of Representatives, the circle of hell where the damned are condemned to spend eternity voting to repeal the health care reform law.

Perhaps you missed the one last week. Let me summarize:

- "The Obamacare law must be ripped out by its roots!"

- "The 37th time! The 37th time!"

- "A malignant tumor that's metastasizing on America's liberty!"

- "We have spent over 56 hours on the floor debating repeal of the law of the land!"

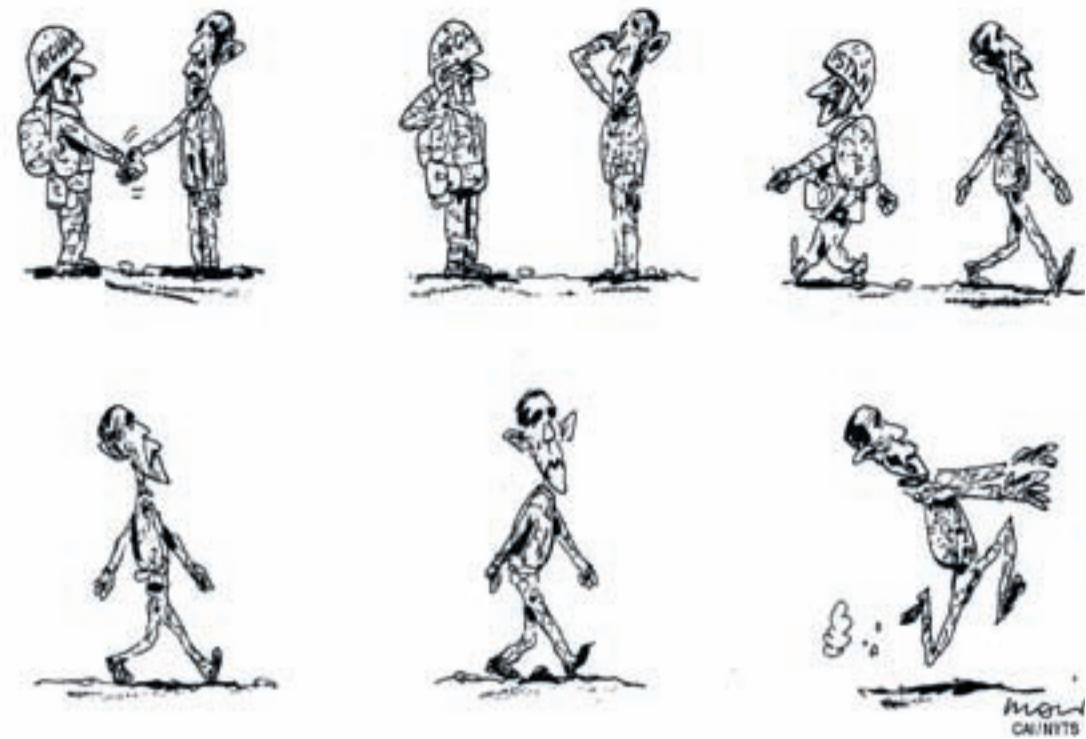
The House Republican leadership would probably rather have been working on something else. But the newer members whined that they'd hardly had any opportunities to vote to repeal Obamacare at all.

"It sends a great statement back to our district," said Rep. Ted Yoho, R-Fla., whom many people enjoy quoting because they like saying Ted Yoho.

Also, it's hard for the Republicans to agree among themselves about anything else. One influential conservative organization recently urged Speaker John Boehner to drop the whole legislation idea completely and just hold committee hearings about the IRS scandal and Benghazi forever.

"Recent events have rightly focused the nation's attention squarely on the actions of the Obama administration," argued Heritage Action for America. "It is incumbent upon the House of Representatives to conduct oversight hearings on those actions, but it would be imprudent to do anything that shifts the focus from the Obama administration to the ideological differences within the House Republican conference."

We really hate it when they get imprudent. □



## Tell Me How This Ends



THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

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**SANLIURFA, Turkey** — I've been traveling to Yemen, Syria and Turkey to film a documentary on how environmental stresses contributed to the Arab awakening. As I looked back on the trip, it occurred to me that three of our main characters — the leaders of the two Yemeni villages that have been fighting over a single water well and the leader of the Free Syrian Army in Raqa province, whose cotton farm was wiped out by drought — have 36 children among them: 10, 10 and 16.

It is why you can't come away from a journey like this without wondering not just who will rule in these countries but how will anyone rule in these countries? Of course, we should hope for those with sincere democratic aspirations to prevail, but clearly theirs is not the only vision being put on the table. These aspiring democrats are having to compete with Islamist, sectarian and tribal opposition groups, which also have deep roots in these societies. No matter which trend triumphs, though, the real issue here is whether 50 years of population explosion, environmental mismanagement and educational stagnation have made some of these countries ungovernable by any group or ideology.

In Egypt, Yemen or Syria, it is

common to see primary school classes of 60-70 kids with one undertrained teacher, no computers and no science instruction. How are the 36 kids whose three fathers I met going to have a chance in a world where not only are robots replacing manual blue-collar workers but software is increasingly replacing routine white-collar jobs — and where some of them can't go back to the family farm because the water and topsoil have been depleted?

Then I go across the Turkish border to Tel Abyad, in northeastern Syria, and I see broken buildings, electricity lines on the ground, half-finished homes and a gaping hole in a grain storage tower, and I think: Not only are they behind, but this war is still destroying what little they have left. They are in a hole and still digging.

To pull together requires trust — that intangible thing that says you can rule over me even though you come from a different tribe, sect or political party — and that is what is missing here. In the absence of any Nelson Mandela-like leaders able and eager to build trust, I don't see how any of these awakenings succeed. I keep thinking about the Free Syrian Army commander, whom I quoted Sunday, introducing me to his leadership team: "My nephew, my cousin, my brother, my cousin, my nephew, my son, my cousin ..." What does that tell you?

We can only properly answer the question — should we be arming the Syrian rebels? — if we first answer what kind of Syria do we want to see emerge and what will it take, beyond arms, to get there?

If we want Bashar Assad's regime to be toppled and pluralistic democracy to emerge in Syria, then we not only need to arm the rebels but we need to organize an international

peacekeeping force to enter Syria as soon as the regime falls to help manage the transition. Otherwise, when Assad is toppled, there will be at least two more wars in Syria. First will be a war between Sunnis and Alawites, the sect that Assad represents. The Alawites will fight to defend their perks and turf. After that, there will be a war within the opposition — between the Islamists and more secular fighting forces that have very different visions of a future Syria. Only an outside peacekeeping force could make up for the lack of trust and shared vision and try to forge a new Syria. And it would be a very, very long haul.

If our goal is to arm the rebels just to serve our strategic interests — which are to topple the Assad regime and end the influence of Iran and Hezbollah in Damascus and not care what comes next — then we need to be ready for the likely fragmentation of Syria into three zones: one Sunni, one Alawite and one Kurdish.

That might eventually solve the trust and civil war problems, as everyone would be living "with their own," but I am not sure it would better enable Syrians to address their development challenges.

A third option would be to arm the rebels just to ensure a stalemate — in the hope that the parties might eventually get exhausted enough to strike a deal on their own. But, again, I find it hard to see how any deal that might set Syria on the long, difficult path to a decent, inclusive political system could be implemented without outside help on the ground to referee.

So let's do something new: think two steps ahead. Before we start sending guns to more people, let's ask ourselves for what exact ends we want those guns used and what else would be required of them and us to realize those ends. □

# Bike share in New York, built from ideas around world

MATT FLEGENHEIMER

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**NEW YORK** — There is a hopeful prediction, kicking around in cycling circles as New York City's bike-share program nears its introduction to a skeptical public: Soon enough, the thinking goes, the scheme will prove so popular that New Yorkers will insist they invented it.

Not quite.

When Citi Bike is introduced in New York on Monday, it will resemble a sort of cycling stew — bulky bikes to

each system."

The process began as early as 2009, amid Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg's expansion of bike lanes, as city officials wondered if a bike-share system might also suit the streets. The administration compiled a report studying programs from five cities — Barcelona, Montreal, Paris, Toulouse and Washington — weighing how characteristics of each might translate in New York.

Paris seemed immediately like the best comparison,

aged, often landing on the black markets of Eastern Europe and North Africa. The city later reinforced the bikes' chains and baskets and added better theft protection, but vandalism "is still a problem," said Albert Asseraf, vice president of strategy, research and marketing at JCDecaux, which oversees the program in Paris.

With this in mind, New York's bikes will be locked into stations at the steering port, rather than on the side of the bike frame — the con-

nections, Minneapolis, may portend well for New York, where many residents have questioned the wisdom of introducing thousands of new bikes to the road. Officials from all three cities said no fatalities had been reported among the programs' riders since they began operating.

The Paris system saw several rider deaths in its early years, Asseraf recalled, before cycling growth in the city compelled drivers to amend their habits. "There was a sort of period of ad-

ducing their bike-share systems, hoping to drive up memberships.

Another frequent criticism of New York's program — that the bike kiosks are intrusive additions to already-clogged streets and sidewalks — was most likely dulled, at least somewhat, by New York's attention to its forebears. In London and Paris, stations are trenched in the ground, rendering them difficult to remove. Kiosks in New York's system, similar to Montreal's, are simply set on the street surface, secured by their own weight, with no physical tethering to the ground.

"Can you imagine doing 300 miniconstruction sites around the city?" Orcutt said, alluding to the resident complaints about even the low-maintenance installation.

The flexibility has already allowed the city to adjust kiosks, as workers did recently on Bank Street, where a few spots were removed to avoid blocking a building entrance.

Still, administrators from other programs suggested that New York's system would not be without its birth pangs. Jenna Oxley, a spokeswoman for the London program, said many riders struggled initially with simple tasks, like checking a bike into and out of a kiosk. Critics in Washington have accused the program there of becoming a subsidy for white residents and the highly educated, two groups disproportionately represented among members. In Minneapolis,

a largely car-dependent public needed to be convinced that bike sharing was not "a crazy socialist notion," said Bill Dosssett, the executive director for Nice Ride Minnesota, which operates from April to November.

In New York, it appears, officials have been advocating a similar overhaul of the streets since 2009, when the administration's report imagined a 49,000-bike system. (Current plans call for 10,000 bikes, across 600 stations, but the city has said it expects to expand the program.) □



Dani Simons, Director of Marketing and External Affairs with NYC Bike Share explains the process of using the bicycles at a dock and lock station at the Brooklyn Navy Yards in New York. The expanding bike share system allows those who join to ride bicycles and return them from the same or different docks in parts of New York.

(AP Photo/Craig Ruttle)

match the behemoths of London, a pricing model that resembles Washington's and pliable station hardware borrowed from Montreal.

And when Citi Bike personnel "rebalance" the supply of bikes by truck, they will be emulating cities like Paris, where rental riders' joy in gliding downhill has not been matched by their determination in pedaling back up.

"What we've tried to do," said Jon Orcutt, the policy director for New York's Transportation Department, "is take the best of

given its size, tourism and widely used mass transit network. The population density of New York's business hubs, like Manhattan and western Brooklyn, was virtually identical to Paris', officials noted.

But despite the popularity of the program, which includes 24,000 bikes — quadruple the size of New York's initial system — Paris also supplied crucial lessons in what not to do.

In the early days of the rental system, known as Velib', an estimated 80 percent of the program's original bikes were stolen or dam-

aged, often landing on the black markets of Eastern Europe and North Africa. The city later reinforced the bikes' chains and baskets and added better theft protection, but vandalism "is still a problem," said Albert Asseraf, vice president of strategy, research and marketing at JCDecaux, which oversees the program in Paris.

With this in mind, New York's bikes will be locked into stations at the steering port, rather than on the side of the bike frame — the connection

that has allowed Parisian thieves to "use the bike as a lever" to crack it out of the lock, Orcutt said. The bikes themselves, and the process of paying for them, are more direct descendants of the London program. Relying on a leading sponsor — Barclays for London, Citibank for New York — whose logo is splashed across the program equipment, the cities have opted for hulking bikes to negotiate the high-traffic streets.

The safety trends in London, and in other bike-share cities like Washington and